

THE BEST OF BRITISH FOOTBALL... See Back Page

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WEEKLY

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GOOD ONE CRAIG

THE possibility of Newcastle's Liverpool superstar Craig Johnston representing Australia in the 1990 World Cup campaign has taken a giant leap forward.

But will Liverpool manager and former Scotland wonder man Kenny Dalglish lead him towards Scottish representation, notwithstanding his decision to seek his club's approval to play for the Socceroos.

Australian coach Frank Arok sees it this way: "Craig Johnston's ultimate future is back in Australia."

"Out here as an Australian international he will have everything at his feet."

Arok also notes Johnston as possessing the leadership we need — the kind of confidence we want.

"The very quality of his game would give us an absolute boost."

The other side of the coin is that Johnston has a penchant for doing his own thing — and usually the unexpected.

There was his switch to British citizenship, and his big splash treatment to boost Australia's contribution to the Bob Geldof Sport Aid quest.

Craig does not do things by halves.

He is right on the spot if the Scottish FA were to change its mind over not allowing a player who had turned out in under 21 friendlies for England to appear in their colours.

His style of football has an affinity with the Scots — hard-working, fighting, winning possession, losing the ball, but never letting up.

BY KEITH GILMOUR

How Australia could do with him.

Going forward would be at premium.

Johnston at 15 went to Middlesborough and made his own way.

Let's hope he makes his own way back into the Australian World Cup team.

And that it all begins with a couple of the games against either Nottingham Forest, Manchester United or Everton.

"The very quality of his game would give us an absolute boost."

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His style of football has an affinity with the Scots — hard-working, fighting, winning possession, losing the ball, but never letting up.



CRAIG JOHNSTON, would be a great drawcard.

WAKE UP, DEPT OF SPORT

THE NAME of the new head Soccer coach at the Australian Institute of Sport is about to be announced.

We would like to think the appointee was Johnny Warren — the ex-National team hero who represented Australia 62 times — 44 of them in A internationals.

The likelihood however is that either of Englishman Ron Smith and Mike Wells will come home — and probably the former.

Smith in particular is not without his credentials. He has served in State Director of

Coaching appointments, as well as being Jim Shoulder's assistant at the AIS.

But of the applicants only Warren has seen it all from Australia's viewpoint right across the world.

He holds a FIFA coaching badge.

Although Warren writes a column for this newspaper, we have left him to run his own race for the AIS job.

The appointment comes from the AIS, but the National Director of Coaching Eric Worthington and the Australian Soccer Federation executive director Brian Emery have been closely

involved.

Economics

A lot of hot air has come our way in recent days. We have been led to wonder what is behind the arrangements and the publicity splash over the AIS playing the bye game in the Victorian State League.

Expensive Saturday night matches at Bruce Stadium before NIL crowds . . . 16 hour return bus trips to Melbourne . . . the AIS meeting the bill for visiting teams . . . where does this sort of thing end.

Doesn't the AIS and the Federal Government

realise the huge and unnecessary expenditures that are being committed for so little benefit.

There are methods available under which the players could receive better tuition at half the cost.

And the assistant coach's position could be wiped out and specialist coaches could handle any overflow of work from the head coach.

There has to be an entire re-think of the basic requirements of the coaching service in Australia and it should start/should have started with the AIS job.

— KEITH GILMOUR

PRAISE FROM KENNY



KENNY DALGLISH

CRAIG JOHNSTON had to come off at halftime in the Aston Villa match on Saturday.

He struck a recurrence of the back injury that caused him to lose 10 matches this season and his immediate priority is to have the injury fixed.

Yesterday Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish said that Johnston "was good enough to play for any team in the world."

But Dalglish himself has no intention of lobbying the Scottish FA to have them change their decision not to play the Australian superstar.

Australia can only hope that the boy from Lake Macquarie NSW will decide for the Green and Gold.

TOP VALUE

NO other paper can be compared to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY for value and overall news cover.

Each week we bring the reader the latest overseas, National team, National League, State League and Regional cover from a bevy of top writers.

We scour the country for news, with regular articles and pictures from all the Soccer States, NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Northern NSW, Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania and South Australia.

Our columnists cover fact and opinion topics as the stories break.

Juniors, schools, amateur and women's Soccer are other regular departments, with the indoor game being featured in season.

THIS WEEK'S SCOOPS

★ Mark Jankovics retires Page 3

★ Mike Denton doesn't retire Page 12

★ NSW, Victoria, Queensland etc . . .

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The Editor

WHEN the burning hot subject of Summer Soccer is discussed there is often a lot of heat generated.

Looking back about seven years when the subject first saw light of day, it is possible to observe with hindsight that it was a good job that the scheme was not progressed at that time.

There is no question that the infrastructure was not there on just about any aspect that would be material to the 'for' case.

But, it seems to some degree, Summer Soccer is a question of today, because it is to be discussed at the March meeting of the National Soccer League.

It would be surprising indeed if the majority of clubs favoured the idea, but it should first be pointed out that 'Summer Soccer' is a contradiction of terms.

What is to be discussed — probably without an adequate and in depth study of the question — could be somewhat more correctly described as 'Autumn and Spring Soccer' than 'Summer Soccer'.

What is involved is an autumn period of say mid-February to the end of May and then mainly the spring from August to the end of November.

That would leave NSL clubs to train from early to mid-January, having a break during June/July and then picking up their work to re-commence in August.

The players would train in both heat and cold but technically the public would watch the game in the comfort of a balmy breeze under floodlights.

We understand that the use of Friday and Saturday nights is contemplated.

At first blush it is clear that the various State Leagues should be the big gainers from such a system. Their season would remain intact.

It has even been mentioned that the State League clubs might even license the use of some NSL stars from their clubs in order to build their standards, public acceptance and gate takings.

Germany, it has been pointed out, has an eight week winter break, but their winter is far more severe than that of Canberra even and counter attractions are limited.

Certainly in comparative terms against most cold zone countries, Sydney and Melbourne winters could be classed as mild.

The Australian Soccer Federation has an interest in obtaining the June/July period without NSL opposition to play international games.

But if in eight weeks there is one game in Sydney, two in Melbourne, two in Adelaide and four in Perth as is the case this year, or a couple of tournaments spread around the states, where does the public go. Just to State League, it seems, or away from Soccer altogether.

Oceania-standard tournaments are irrelevant to the discussion, as they will not be promoted to any degree.

Even in 1988 a change to Spring-Autumn play would have little effect on matters.

The Olympic qualifying rounds will be over at the beginning of March.

Two weeks would be required in June for the Gold Cup, which is to include two World Cup winning countries.

Allowance can be made by the NSL for Olympic Game fixtures if Australian makes it.

The Seoul Olympics will be contested from September 17 to October 2 1988.

So where realistically is the pressure.

It can fairly be argued that Australian Soccer desperately needs to broaden its base.

And so there should be no 'anti' attitude to new ideas just for the sake of opposition alone.

The 'pro' argument has to overcome the point of whether the Soccer public can weather a winter break to the continuity of matches.

It is said that it can be done elsewhere.

No other major Soccer country has other sports ready to move in to the extent that applies in Australia, so Soccer cannot afford to give an inch to Australian Rules and Rugby League.

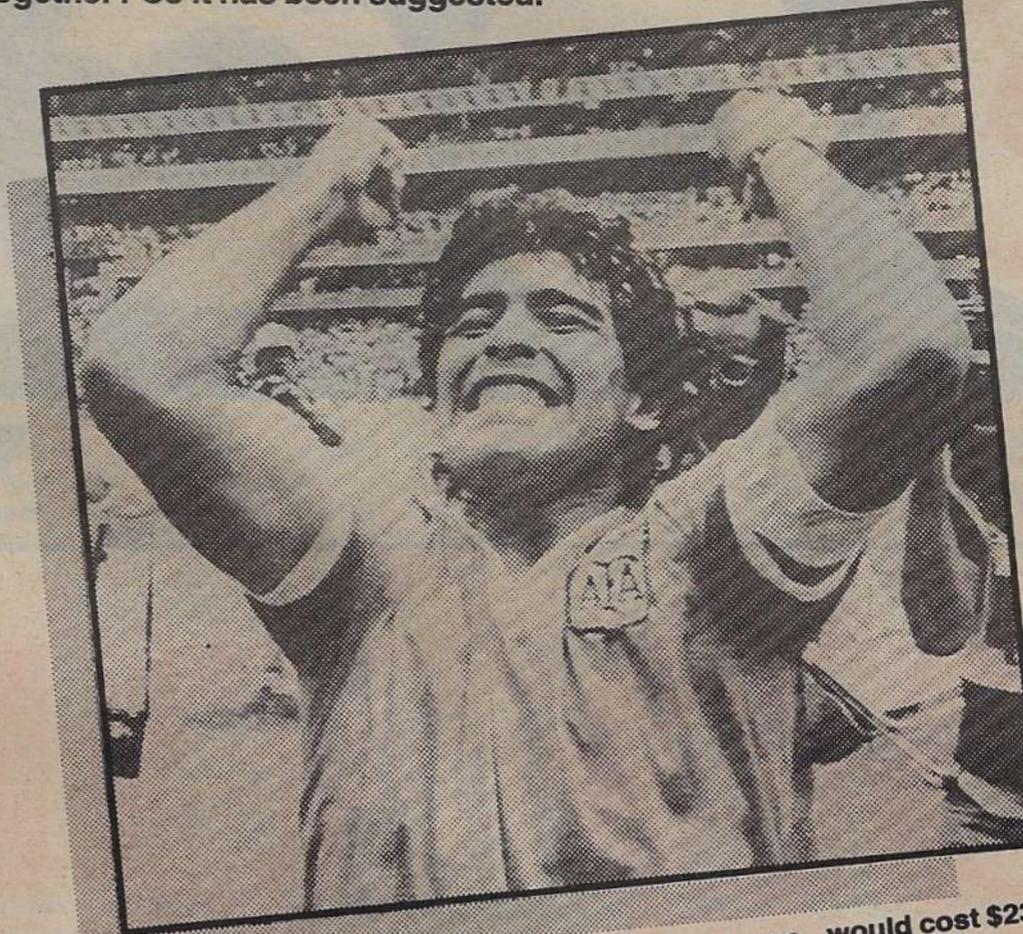
On balance Australian Soccer cannot afford mistakes on the question. Certainly the unlikely event of having a premature favourable decision is utterly inconceivable.

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THAT ARISTOCRATIC APPROACH CALLS FOR STAR QUALITIES

TOTTENHAM Hotspurs and Maradona!

Two aristocrats of Soccer to join together? So it has been suggested.



MARADONA ... World superstar, but a move would cost \$23m

Tottenham, a London giant starved of success in recent years is said to be prepared to pay what is needed to bring Maradona to the English capital.

Since the great days of the 60's, when Tottenham won the double (League and FA Cup), the club has stumbled amid the Merseyside onslaughts of Liverpool and latterly Everton.

Like Manchester United, despite massive spending and many changes of managers, consistent results have not come.



OSSIE ARDILES

Keith Burkinshaw did well with Tottenham as manager and would have gone to the better things, but the board were impatient for the glory days to return and pushed Burkinshaw aside.

I remember attending Lilleshall, England's coaching academy, on a course with Burkinshaw. I was over from Australia, while he was then

coach at Newcastle United.

My parent's home was at Newcastle so Burkinshaw drove me there.

During the journey he talked of the stereotyped nature of English club Soccer.

When, some time later, he became manager of Tottenham, he brought them the great talents of Ossie Ardiles and Ricardo Villa to his club.

They won him an FA Cup, but not a league title, which is the accolade in England and Keith eventually was on his way.

But the club obviously remembers what the Argentine magic did for Tottenham and now Maradona is the new target, with his friend Ardiles, still a Tottenham player, the key to lure the world's No.1 to London.

Star Qualities

There is a saying in sport that one player does not make a team. I have always disputed this.

The impact of a player like Stanley Matthews, who revitalised a Stoke City team in the 1960's in England; goalkeeper Peter Shilton who was the base for the success of a previously unsuccessful Southampton; Pele at Cosmos, Maradona at Naples — all points to the fact that one player can take a team from a loser to a winner.

The star's own talent plays a major part in the transformation of the team, but so does the influence he wields over the others.

As previous losses are transformed into wins, player confidence increases all round.

With it motivation and general self esteem increases.

I am sure the Napoli players are bathing in the spotlight shed on Maradona and that the whole club has grown in stature and expectation as a result of his presence.

Having said that,

Newcastle United did out of a hat is to be applauded.

Similarly the entrepreneurial skills of the Cosmos people to lure Pele to America, or the Napoli board to bring the great talents of Maradona to Naples.

However, what happens when Maradona leaves Napoli?

Look at Newcastle two years after Keegan left them.

They are bottom of the English 1st Division.

As a former player at Newcastle with knowledge of their board of directors, they have always left a lot to be desired.

Consequently the club's career in the last 20 years has experienced as many ups and downs as New Zealand climber Edmund Hillary.

Progression

I am impressed here in Sydney by the solid progress made by Melita Eagles.

My first hand knowledge of St George lets me know that it deserves the success it has achieved. Frank Arok has been a key factor in this achievement.

It is true that long serving coaches/managers can be a vital factor in the stability of a club.

Arok at Saints and Eddie Thomson at Sydney City are examples.

The record of Liverpool is very impressive in that following the long managerial reign of Bill Shankly, a succession of managers have kept on filling the trophy room with honours.



MIKE JOHNSON
former English
First Division

Liverpool is acknowledged as possibly best run club in England.

Reflecting on the Australian scene again, it is interesting to study results of South Melbourne.

South Melbourne seems better geared for the years for success than its Sydney counterpart.

Nevertheless a series of different coaches in recent times has not helped the club attain the status it seeks.

The swooping of Mick McDermott for John Maragakis seemed a strange decision for the 1986 season, even allowing for the fact that some people may have preferred a different style of Soccer.

The release of Margaritis for this year seems to sound to the outside even given the success and status that newcomer Brian Garvey has enjoyed in the past with limited resources.

Nevertheless club administration is tremendously difficult and hazardous enterprise.

As with coaching and refereeing, it is much easier to criticise the way it is done, than do it yourself.



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110 NSL goals... what a performance

A TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT 'JANKO'

THE departure from the Soccer scene of a star personality is always a sad one, but when the end comes with a whimper rather than a bang the occasion becomes one of even greater sorrow.

Such was the case with the sudden announcement by Mark Jankovics that he is hanging up his boots and rejecting any offers to finish his playing days in the lower divisions.

Jankovics was in the middle of his pre-season preparations and was looking fitter than he had been for many months when he decided to call it a day.

His decision was obviously influenced by Frank Farina's transfer to Marconi to team up with Steve Maxwell from Adelaide City.

The arrival of these players, together with David Lowe's superb form meant that Jankovics had to battle with Geoff Gunning and new signing Zlatko Nastevski for the occasional opening in the Marconi front line.

After a heart to heart talk with coach Roberto Vieri, the 30 year old veteran of 110 National League goals came to the conclusion that the best course of action would be to retire from playing altogether.

Never Say Die

His nine seasons at Marconi produced many unforgettable performances, saving his side from defeat on numerous occasions. While the blonde-haired striker was on the field a game was never lost until the final whistle.

Last year's epic semi-

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

final against Sydney City was transformed from

the moment that Jankovics was sent on early in the second half with his side trailing 0-3.

He scored one goal and

had a big hand in Geoff Gunning's last minute equaliser before Marconi won the match on a penalty shootout.

That was almost a replica of his previous year's effort against Sydney Olympic when he

scored his side's equaliser in the dying seconds of extra time and against APIA in 1984 when Marconi looked beaten at 1-3 with three minutes of extra time remaining.

Two goals in two minutes from Rod Brown

and Jankovics salvaged a draw from what looked inevitable defeat.

Service

Jankovics nevertheless had his share of critics over the years,

mainly due to his frequent absence through the injuries which have plagued his career.

However nobody can deny the tremendous service that he has given since joining Marconi from St George in 1978.

His 216 National League and Cup matches must be getting close to the NSL record.

Certainly, nine seasons with the same club has become a rarity in these days of regular club hopping by players.

Jankovics' departure leaves just one link between this season's Marconi side and the one that carried all before it in 1979.

Captain Tony Henderson is now the only playing survivor of that championship winning team — and that's another example of club loyalty.

Frank Farina's transfer which indirectly led to Jankovic's retirement produced one other small touch of irony.

Jankovics had occupied the same spot in the Marconi dressing room since 1978 and he guarded his domain jealously --nobody dared contemplate taking it from him.

Farina is now occupying that same spot.



MARK JANKOVICS

CYPRUS CLUB ANCHORS CRINO



UNFORTUNATELY Oscar Crino will have to deal with Anorthosis FC in Cyprus before he can be signed in Australia. Ultimately it could put him out of action, because his transfer fee may be greater than any local club can afford.

Pictured is Crino in action against Scotland in 1986 World Cup decider with the Scots as he bears down on.



MIKE DENTON
Former St George
goalkeeper.
STORY PAGE 12

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MELITA SWEEPS APIA FROM CUP

MELITA-EAGLES showed enormous fighting qualities and excellent organisation to send their more illustrious NSL opponents APIA spinning out of the State Bank Challenge Cup quarter finals at St George Stadium on Sunday night.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

With the score locked in at 1-1 at the break, Melita won the match 2-1 thanks to a superb second half goal scored by star left-midfielder, Wayne Fairnsworth.

But Fairnsworth's winning goal was not the youngster's only contribution to his side.

In fact the solid former striker repeatedly ripped APIA apart down the left flank and tackled tigerishly throughout the match to be the best player on the pitch.

APIA, a far more experienced side, threatened early in the

first session to take Melita to the cleaners. But poor finishing around the box neutralised their threats.

Melita's new signing, central striker Greg Brown — who cut his honeymoon short to rush back for the match — headed strongly in the 27th minute well on target, only to see his effort fly straight into Tony Pezzano's arms.

But in the 28th minute Melita drew first blood.

Striker John Foxman gained possession, short passed to Ray Farrugia who raided into Apia's

box to smash into the target a scorching 12 metre drive.

Seconds before half-time, APIA balanced the books.

Newly signed midfielder from Marconi, Peter Tredinnick, scored with his 22 metre piledriving free-kick.

The second half saw Melita in complete control as they were to a man faster to the ball and looked much hungrier for a victory.

Melita's back-three of Craig Williams, Tony Cabassi and Billy Griffith stood solid to all assaults whilst the midfield trio of Anthony Welbourne, Kenny Wilson and Ray Farrugia worked tirelessly, switching the ball around with much imagination.

But APIA slogged on and many times in the second half their veteran

midfielder Terry Butler dropped back into the heart of the defence to stiffen the back-line against Melita's menacing marauders.

Rod Brown, APIA's red-headed striker, was closely watched throughout the match, but in the 72nd minute, Brown seemed set to score.

Gaining possession well out on the left, he raced through into the box, but Melita's excellent goalkeeper, Dragan Pupovac, coming off his line, stabbed the ball from Brown with his boot to save the imminent danger.

In fact, Pupovac was another super-star for Melita on the night, pulling off three excellent blocks.

In the 76th minute he

brought off the best save of the match when he turned himself backwards to tip over the top of his cross-bar a brilliant, ripping 15 metre drive from Tredinnick.

Farnsworth tore the net in the 85th minute when he belted the winning 20 metre drive following a short pass from Farrugia.

And what's more, the Demons, (the Cup winners in 1984), had turned up at the Stadium without their coach, Les Schienflug who was admitted into hospital just 90 minutes before kick-off.

Raul Blanco, Scheinfug's South American amigo, took over Blacktown City for the night and did everything right.

How did a team of youngsters manage to toss their more illustrious NSL opponents out of the Cup?

Simple. Blacktown City knew that Sydney Olympic would come at them, so to a man, they denied all Olympic players space.

BLACKTOWN THROW OLYMPIC OUT OF THE STATE CUP

BLACKTOWN CITY pulled off the shock of the 1987 State Bank Challenge Cup by knocking-out the star-studded Sydney Olympic side 1-0 in the quarter-finals on Sunday night at the St George Stadium.

And repeatedly Blacktown City was faster to the ball than Olympic, who waited for it to roll-on to them.

The moment an Olympic player gained possession, a Red and Black shirt was there with him in a split second.

Nobody did this better than Blacktown's tenacious left-back, Darren Northam.

Northam brilliantly tied up Olympic's star international striker Marshall Soper with lightning-fast tackles, denying the giant striker any space to operate at all.

Continued p19 □

YOUNG SOCCEROOS GRAB HAT-TRICKS

CROATIA IN TOP GEAR FOR JUST HALF HOUR

EXCEPT for their barnstorming start, Sydney Croatia were content to sit back on Robbie Slater's first half hat-trick to take the quarter-final clash with Sutherland Shire 3-0.

Croatia started like the proverbial 'house on fire' and gave Sutherland's well-performed goalkeeper Craig Burchmore a horrid time early on.

BY FRANK COLETTA

Inside the first five minutes he was forced to deny both Graham Arnold and Graham Jennings.

But he was unable to do it a third time when Manis Lamond took on Robert Stellar for one of the many times down the sideline, and flighted a wonderful cross to the head of Robbie Slater and Croatia went ahead 1-0.

Indeed in these early moments the approach play by the Edensor Park outfit was a delight to behold with Zarko Odzakov the inspiration behind the build-ups.

At the quarter hour Sutherland found themselves bitten by the hungry Slater once more.

Croatia's build up to the second goal was marvellous and it led to Arnold, Jennings and Lamond all having a go at scoring before Slater found the ball dropping perfectly for a smashing ten metre volley that Burchmore didn't see.

Manis Lamond was destined not to score on this night at Marconi Stadium. He'd already been denied twice by the Sutherland number one and Burchmore went at it again on the half hour with a fine save.

Three minutes later Slater completed his first hat-trick for his new club when Lamond, as ever

the provider, took on his fullback again, crossed and Slater gratefully nodded it in.

From there on the 3-0 lead satisfied Croatia so much that they slowed down a gear or three and Sutherland did their best to grab a face-saver.

However it did not come. Once when Greg Woodhouse spilled a cross it looked likely but he made amends with a brilliant follow-up save.

The closest they came was when substitute Craig Hill rose above everyone at a corner-kick and banged the crossbar with his header.

Yet to come though was the most remarkable occurrence of the match. With just 15 minutes left Zarko Odzakov for once lost possession in front of the defence and the attempted clearance from Ball, some 30 metres from goal, slammed directly into the Australian international.

Unbelievably the rebound sailed over the stunned goalkeeper's head and crashed against the underside of the crossbar and back into Burchmore's hand!

CROATIA: Woodhouse, Rezo (Cerro 46), Jennings, Vleitstra, Rozic, Savor, Jones, Lamond, Arnold, Odzakov, Slater (Clinch 46).

SUTHERLAND: Burchmore, Nelson, Sellar (Burrows 46), Terry, Ball, Cox, Meades, Harrington, Lerond, Duncan (Hill 70), Sharp.

Referee: J. McConnell. Crowd: 3250.

RIDING on the back of Frank Farina's hat-trick, Marconi were never really troubled by Frank Arok's St. George side, who were accounted for to the tune of 4-1 on Saturday night.

Marconi, revelling it seems on the coaching of Roberto Vieri and showing that his class touch play and passing has certainly rubbed off, went at St. George with some delightful interchanges, reminiscent of the game that their coach was brought up on in his native Italy.

Not only has he instilled this into the new-look Fairfield outfit but also the blitzing art of counter-attack football in the best Italian tradition. A few times on the night the Saints were left with a 2 and sometimes 3 on 1 situation.

After fourteen minutes Mike Gibson received a taste of the torrid night he was in for as Ian Gray let loose with a free-kick outside the area and the keeper scrambled to make the save.

It was Gray in the action three minutes later

BY FRANK COLETTA

FRANKLY, MARCONI DID IT EASILY...

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

GIANT NSL clubs Sydney Olympic and APIA-Leichhardt, were both shell-shocked as they were sent crashing out of the State Bank Challenge Cup semi-finals last Sunday night by Blacktown City and Melita-Eagles respectively.

Blacktown City, with a magnificent display of non-stop, pressure tackling, bundled out the star-studded Sydney Olympic with a 1-0 victory.

Melita-Eagles' 2-1 win, which sent APIA reeling, was almost an equal shock to Soccer fans.

The NSW Soccer Federation, organisers of the Cup competition, couldn't have wished for a worse result as the two NSL clubs have large followings.

With Olympic out of the Cup, an estimated \$36,000 cash loss of revenue is now expected.

Luckily, Marconi and Sydney Croatia, two other well-supported sides, have won through to the Cup semi-final double headers next Sunday, which will be played at the St George Stadium.

The semi-finals draw will be out tonight, following a meeting this evening of the NSW Executive at the Federation's headquarters at Parklea.

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STATE BANK LEAGUE CLUBS RECEIVE THEIR CHANCES

WITH the quarter finals of the State Bank Cup played at the weekend, it is interesting to see which clubs have progressed and the ones that have faltered.

Early season form is often misleading with some clubs in danger of starting training too early and getting to a peak at the wrong time.

It's also often the case that clubs who do particularly well pre-season have a mediocre season overall.

The State Bank have come to the party this season and at least for the next two seasons and that's a great boost for the game.

It is always good for State League clubs in the pre-season competition to be able to compete against their National League counterparts and more so this year with the reduced National League.

VALENTINE PARK IS IN HIGH DEMAND



WITH the completion of the new motel blocks, Valentine Park bookings have been arriving galore.

Apart from local interest which includes Olympia — WPL from Tasmania, two overseas bookings have been made.

One is for a group of 40 Arab coaches and the

other for 160 players on a school tour from the United States.

Blacktown City coach Les Scheinflug will hold all Wednesday and Friday club training sessions there for the season.

On the trade side the NSW licensees of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation have been involved, and also Mitre Sports goods.

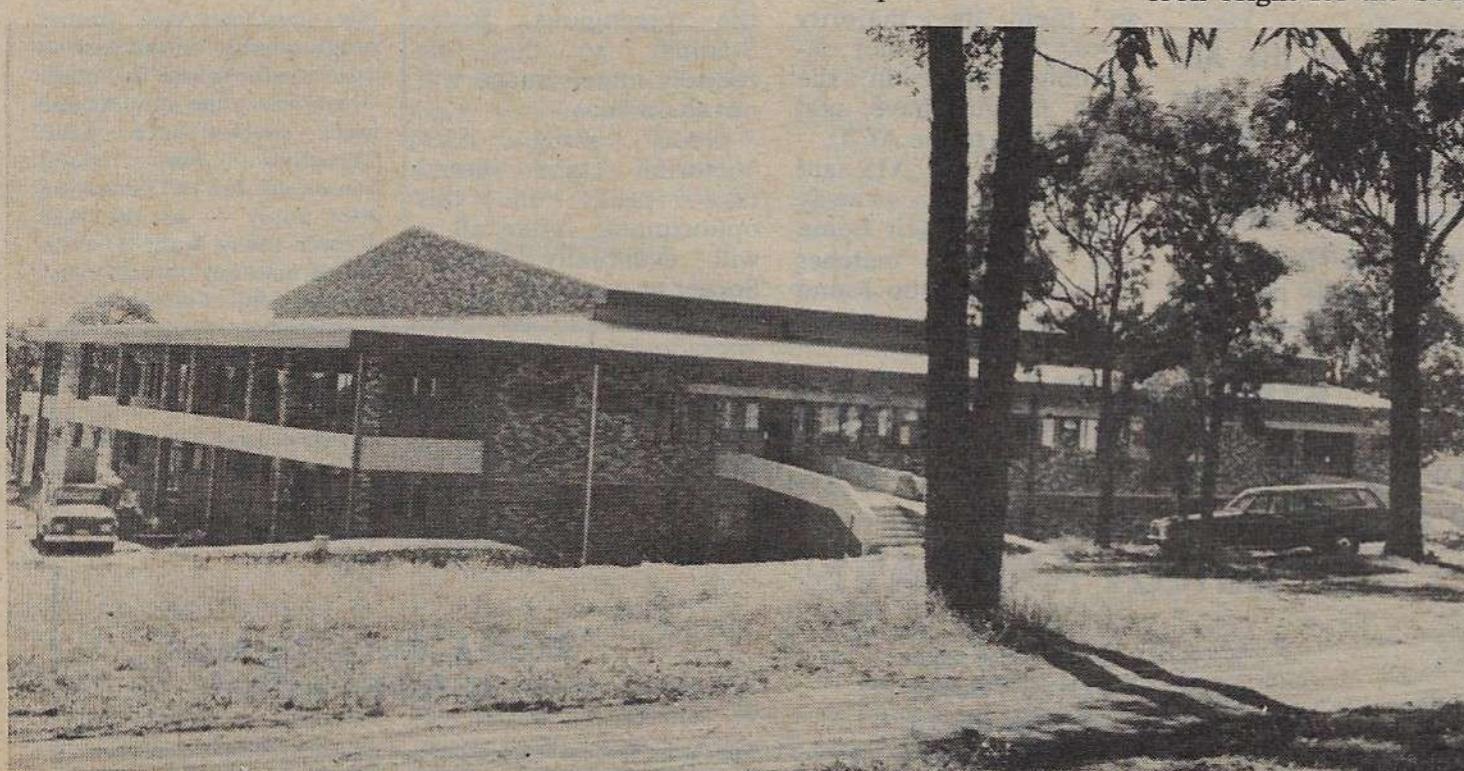
Sutherland, St George

and Blacktown City Youth League teams will each be in for three days.

Then there is the NSW Academy courses and the under 18 National titles.

Basketball is also on the job for games and seminars.

Nothing much by way of extra bookings are available until after the end of April.



VALENTINE PARK... motel attraction.

SCHEINFLUG IN HOSPITAL

JOHN ECONOMOS

LES SCHEINFLUG, Blacktown City's Australian Youth Socceroo coach, was admitted into Wentworthville Hospital just 90 minutes before his team fought a torrid battle in the State Bank Challenge Cup last Sunday at St George Stadium to eventually defeat the powerful Sydney Olympic.

Scheinflug's role as coach had been taken over by his former National team assistant Raul Blanco.

The operation took place yesterday morning and Les is expected to remain in hospital for another five days.

The surgery was for an ailment that had "piled" up on him.

But Australian Soccer Weekly, on hearing of Scheinflug's plight, quickly pitched in to help.

Much to Scheinflug's immense surprise, we brought him a live commentary of the last six minutes of the Cup match.

Scheinflug laid back in bed listening eagerly as his team eliminated the highly favoured Sydney Olympic from the State Bank Cup.

As ASW's commentator brought in the final result at fever-pitch, Scheinflug — by this time highly excited and willing his defence into action as Olympic bombarded Blacktown's goals in the dying seconds — actually fell out of bed!



LES SCHEINFLUG

SOUTH AMERICAN JOINS UP WITH GRANVILLE-CHILE

ASW's readers, management and staff, wish Les a speedy recovery so that he can attend next Sunday's semi-finals match.

STRIKER

AT THE CRICKET

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

A well-known NSL striker was spotted at the Sydney Cricket Ground watching the recent World Series Cup Final between Australia and England.

Stretching out lazily in his comfortable seat in the Brewongle Stand, the striker was elated as his home country was taking out the final against the Aussies.

But meanwhile at another Stadium some 12 kilometres away, his own club was being slaughtered in the State Bank Challenge Cup match.

What a 'wicket' deed by our striker.

His coach on the same night, was 'stumped' when his player never showed up for the match.

— JOHN ECONOMOS

THE STATE BANK CHALLENGE CUP

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SUNDAY
AT 6PM & 8PM

Semi-Final Qualifiers

- ★ BLACKTOWN CITY
- ★ MARCONI
- ★ MELITA EAGLES
- ★ SYDNEY CROATIA

DRAW AND TIMES

TO BE ANNOUNCED ON WEDNESDAY BY
NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

SYDNEY OLYMPIC'S WALKATHON

SYDNEY OLYMPIC last night released details of their giant WALKATHON to raise funds for their NSL team. Last year, a similar Walkathon brought in a very welcome \$25,000.

Sports Minister Michael Cleary and Opposition Leader Nick Greiner will be at the walkathon.

Another special invited guest is veteran walker, Cliff Young.

Con Tsattalios, Olympic's secretary, stated: "We are launching a 10 kilometre walkathon for some 1000 junior players and supporters to be 'walked' on March 15th."

The Walkathon will start from Burwood's Westfield Shoppingtown, and end at the Community Centre in Marrickville's Addison Road.

The huge 'walk' kicks off at 9.30am with all entrants paying a starting fee of \$20 each.

Each entrant will receive a Sydney Olympic T-shirt, a season pass for juniors, a Sydney Olympic car-sticker and a coloured Olympic team-poster.

On the completion of the Walkathon, expected by 12.30pm, a carnival will be held at the Community Centre in Marrickville.

Games, dodgem-cars, shooting galleries, clowns, merry-go-rounds etc will be included in the Carnival and stalls will supply drinks, ice-creams and various foods.

For further details, please contact:

Mr Con Tsattalios on 597 5777.



State Bank



The Victorian Newsreel



ATTI ABONYI — began at Melbourne HSC.

MELBOURNE HUNGARIA THE TRADITION THAT COULD VANISH

Brighton the answer?

MELBOURNE-HUNGARIA who two years ago climbed back into the State League from which they were missing for over a decade, are back in trouble.

After being relegated back to the First Division after only spending one year in the State League, the wheels have well and truly fallen off the wagon.

Only 11 players have been turning up to training, as most of last year's squad is leaving the club.

AS the 1987 State League season edges closer, activity on the transfer market is becoming more intense.

Thomastown is on a massive "cleanout" with Steve Hackett, Brian Flaherty, Mike Rainey, Robbie Evans, Danny Aleski, Mario Romacolani, Marino Fraceschi and George Tsangos all on the transfer list with negotiable fees.

There is an obvious mixture of youth and experience and possibly enough talent to form a respectable team amongst themselves. Mike Lynn must have some squad this year if he can afford to transfer list eight ex-squad members. Frankston Pines' woes

continues even after an encouraging meeting last week, when the new committee sparked some hope for the coming season.

After the recent clash with Preston in the Buffalo Cup night series players Dennis Boland, Ali Dick and John Cullen all asked to be transfer listed, probably because the rumoured amount of \$40 per fortnight match payment to first team squad members was not enough.

To add to this there is no coach to guide the remaining few.

It is a real shame to see such a historic club take such a deep dive.

A founding member of the State League, Melbourne went on to become a force in Victoria and also win the 1967 Australian Championship.

Not only this but there was a continuous flow of players into the National squad like Atti Abonyi and Duncan Cummings.

Looking Ahead

Rumors have been rife that an amalgamation with the progressive Brighton Club was on the cards.

With the added problem of the possibility of also losing their present ground in Williamstown, Melbourne must have looked at their situation quite seriously.

Plans have been abandoned for the time being, but I don't think that this situation will last for too much longer.

Survival is the name of the game — maybe the Brighton option is the only realistic one open to enable the proud Melbourne unit to survive.

— PHIL DIAMATARIS

COACHES AND PLAYERS NEEDED?

Phil Diamataris
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HAVE FOOTBALL — WON'T TRAVEL

MORWELL FALCONS REFUSE TO FLY

THE saga of the AIS inclusion into the Victorian State League continues. Morwell Falcons have announced that they will not be

travelling to the ACT for matches against the AIS.

Three other sides, Polonia, Northcote and Western Suburbs are still undecided.

This should be democratically resolved and if so then the majority rules. All the other remaining teams in the State League have said they will go to the ACT.

Originally the AIS said they would play - as away games - both their home and away matches against teams who found

it difficult to organise the away leg but now they have offered costs for accommodation and travel.

To this the AIS is considering putting up prizemoney for the matches in the ACT which will be played at the prestigious Bruce Stadium, so that the friendly match image will not be so obvious.

Good going AIS, Victorian clubs should take pride in this opportunity. After all it will eventually benefit Soccer in Australia.

The AIS

TROPHIES DON'T BUILD HOUSES

LAST week Phil Diamataris covered the work that goes in at the Australian Institute of Sport.

He ended with comments that Jim Shoulder's critics accused him of using too many AIS players in the 1985 Australian Youth squad.

Today Diamataris continues:

These comments would probably come from people who are against giving youth a fair go. That's how negative this attitude is.

This year's youth team which qualified for the Chile World Youth cup coached by Les Scheinfug has no less than 12 players who have passed through or are still at the AIS. When Jimmy Shoulder took the Australian Youth side to Moscow he had five players who were at the AIS and four who had been there prior.

Ron, if given the head coach's position permanently, would like to continue this type of success rate. And keep youth coming through for Australian Soccer's future.

The AIS does not always offer the best players a scholarship. If there is a player from Perth or Tasmania, or another less developed Soccer area, who is vying for a position against a player from a more developed State like Victoria or NSW then the lesser developed area player will be offered the scholarship. This attitude will help bring the standard of Australian Soccer up to an even level in the future.

Kurt Reynolds is a prime example of this attitude, he is originally from Tasmania and is presently with the Blacktown and also is captain of the Australian Youth team which is going to Chile. Tony Franken is another example originally from Perth.

To continue on from this example of fair play, the squad of seventeen all get an even chance. I bet we've all heard that before! But Ron assures me that this is the only way all players will develop. No one player is a regular. All players gets the chance to express themselves and set themselves, with all the assistance and proper programming, on the path to a successful future in Soccer — and that's the aim. As one wise coach once said: "Trophies don't build houses my son!" This saying does apply — as the AIS doesn't really want a room full of material objects — just a country full of champions.



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VICTORIA'S BUFFALO GOLD CUP 1987

ZINNI'S DAZZLING FORM

BRUNSWICK Juventus star forward Andrew Zinni attracted the attention of his former boss and assistant national coach John Margaritis, with a brilliant display of unparalleled aggressiveness and deadly accuracy in the Preston match at Olympic Park on Saturday.

Zinni helped Juventus retain their slim chance of making the semi-finals of the Buffalo Gold Cup 1987, by contributing two goals to Juve's spectacular 3-1 win.

His form dazzled John Margaritis, who plans to recommend Zinni to national coach Frank Arok.

The night was also a double bonus for defender Mehmet Durakovic, who celebrated the renewal of his contract with Juventus, by scoring the third goal from his new midfield position.

The return to the team of captain John Yzendoorn after a long absence forced McKendry

to reshuffle his team. Durakovic found himself in the midfield and made the best of the opportunity.

Juventus, however, lined up without Brian Brown. McKendry penalised Brown for turning up for the game without his boots. Prior to the match the player had agreed on terms for his new contract. Juventus also finalised a contract with defender Eddie Campbell and the stalwart of the defence is expected to take his position for the next game.

Zinni opened the score after 18 minutes, turning in the net a though ball by Robert Cullen.

Preston recovered after six minutes when referee Peter Mateski awarded a penalty against John Yzendoorn, for an alleged handling of the ball inside the area.

Gary Cole converted from the penalty spot to keep his lethargic team in the game.

Preston's euphoria was very short lived. Six minutes later Mehmet Durakovic slammed the ball in the net from the area line to put Juventus back in the lead.

Zinni capped his brilliant performance with the third goal, connecting with a free-kick by Robert Cullen.

Len McKendry was far from satisfied with the condition of his team.

"Certainly, it is great to win, but we have a long



EDDIE CAMPBELL

way to go yet," he told ASW after the game.

"I am sure, once we manage to get all of our players back in the team, we will regain the strength and agility that made us the top team in last year's championship."

About the poor performance of star forward Sean Lane, recruited from Preston for an alleged fee of \$35,000, McKendry said: "We did not expect Lane to fit in our team from the first day. He is a great player and once he moulds into our side he will prove an asset. We need to be patient with the player and give him the time and the opportunity to link in properly."

JUST home

Prior to this clash Footscray put an end to Green Gully's aspirations, by making the semi-finals with a narrow 2-1 win.

Ernie Tapai scored from the penalty spot and Warren Spink added another goal to give Footscray a clear lead.

Spink, however, was carried off the field in the last ten minutes of the game with a badly gashed foot.

While Footscray battled with ten men, Sekularic did not replace Spink. Tommy Cumming scored the consolation goal in the dying second of the game.



KEN MORTON

Northcote's 3-0 win in 3EA Charity Shield

BUFFALO CUP RESULTS

HEIDELBERG UNITED 2 (P Tsolakis 2)

BOX HILL 0. Crowd: 1,000.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (A Edwards, D. MacLaren)

FRANKSTON PINES 1 (C Miller)

NORTHCOTE 4 (P. Kostandilis, Beckiaris, Gymnopoulos, Diamataris) THOMASTOWN 3 (Apacic 2, Higgins).

NORTHCOTE: Glanopoulos (Turudis 46), Vianatos, Patiniotis, Bazikas, J. Constantina, Beckiaris, Small (Riemos 46), Gymnopoulos, Diamataris, Patzakos, P. Constantina.

THOMASTOWN: Rapani, Ariorachli, Planalto, McMillan, Kafora (Temos), Kerr (Constantina), Di Martino, Coyle, Apacic, Higgins.

FOOTSCRAY 2 (E Tapai, W Spink)

GREEN GULLY 1 (T Cumming)

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 3 (G Zinni 2, M Durakovic)

PRESTON 1 (G Cole)

SOUTH MELBOURNE v CROYDON CITY AND MELBOURNE CROATIA v ST ALBANS deferred due to weather.



JOHN YZENDOORN

NORTHCOTE fought back dramatically after being two goals down early in the match and went on to record a fine win in the inaugural 3EA Charity Shield.

BY PHIL DIAMATARIS

Northcote, who won the Hellenic Cup and Thomastown, who were successful in the Coppa Italia, displayed some excellent form with the first game of the season some weeks away.

It was Thomastown who took the initiative and with a more direct pattern of play found themselves up 2-0 with Andy Higgins and Russell Athersych planting their opening 1987 goals.

Northcote was not to be outdone with Thomastown relaxing. Peter Constantina found space through the middle and blasted a fierce shot past a hapless Rampone.

Soon afterwards Beckiaris found similar space and sped past George McMillan, who tried desperately to win the ball back but could only trip Beckiaris, which resulted in a penalty.

He took the kick and levelled the scores.

After the break Northcote came out with all guns firing and it wasn't long until Alex Gymnopoulos found himself through after Tom Potzakos elegantly tapped

the ball past the oncoming Thomastown defence, for Gymnopoulos to put his side ahead.

Play flowed from end to end but Northcote showed more organisation. Prime Thomastown movers in the first half such as Athersych and Brian Coyle were well marked, which allowed Northcote to get forward more freely.

With ten minutes remaining and the match still in the balance, Diamataris picked up a loose ball in midfield and put Carlos Romeros through, his shot was smothered but he still managed to chip the ball back to Diamataris who headed home the sealer.

Thomastown though not to be outdone, went forward with nine men and when Athersych scrambled home his second the only thing that seemed to be against them was the time that ran out.

In the earlier game Bulleen disposed of South Melbourne Hellas 3-1. Hellas, made up of its Youth team with Steve Tasios and Ken Murphy the only senior players, put up a game effort but Bulleen's courage and directness gave them the consolation prize after being 1-0 down.

Boin, D'Amico and Avian were the scorers for Bulleen while Mihos - who was also sent-off - scored the solitary Hellas goal.

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THE QUEENSLAND REPORT

With Greg Russell

THE MERRY-GO-ROUND HOTS UP BUT...

STEVE GLOCKNER IS CAUGHT IN A DESPERATE TUG-O-WAR

THE transfer merry-go-round has hit full speed in Queensland and one player who seems to be getting his full money's worth is former Young Soccer Stephen Glockner.

Glockner, 23, returned to Brisbane City amid headlines three weeks ago after a year at XXXX League club Olympic United. Glockner's move back to Spencer Park, where he played NSL for four years, saw him follow former Olympic coach Juan Cutillas.

"I think my future is better served with Brisbane City," Glockner said. "They are a good team that are good places and I would like to be part of it."

But Glockner stunned

City supporters when he returned to Olympic's Goodwin Park last week.

"My permission to trial and train ended this week and it seems negotiations between the two clubs have broken down," Glockner said.

"I wasn't quite happy with the way a few things were conducted and I think in the long run I will be happier at Olympic. They have always done the right thing for me."

Whether that told the full story or not was open to debate. But the cold hard fact was City were

still without a recognised striker until Kieran Cooper returns from Ireland this week.

Swan in Song

But as one player steps off the transfer merry-go-round, another is quick to jump on and it seems North Star's Ross Swan could be on his way to Spencer Park.

And that will see him reunited with brother Ken for the first time since they played at Grange Thistle together more than five years ago.

going wrong on the field."

The likely loss of McNaughton is a tough blow to Coalstars' hopes of repeating last year's Ampol Cup-Grand Final success. But Coalstars coach Brian Styles is a realist.

"Obviously it would be great to have Mark in the squad but at the moment we have to start planning to be without him," Styles said.

But the nucleus of Coalstars side of last year remains, with the only other losses being goalkeeper Brent Diflo and youngster Brad Kearton.

But the Bundamba club has made three promising young signings. They include former Lions and Taringa midfielder Frank Byrne, former Queensland youth player Dale Dawes, and the star capture, Australian under 16 representative Darren Freiberg.

But the club is still in the market for another striker to cover any injuries to their productive goalscorer duo of Dave Wheeler and Mark Brusasco.

Ross Swan has not been able to come to terms with North Star for a new contract and North Star coach Iain Fagan simply stated: "We are not prepared to pay what Rossie is asking, he is on the transfer list".

And with a contract maximum of \$2100 on his head, that makes the striker-midfielder a bargain buy.

Former Lions winger Craig Low also was on the move last week. Low had been linked in a loan deal with Melbourne NSL club Sunshine George Cross for more than a month, but ended

that speculation when he signed with new XXXX League team Rochedale Rovers.

Former Brisbane City and Newcastle goalkeeper Bobby Cox was another Rovers signing with two or three more expected to follow in the coming weeks.

And Lions NSL striker Clark Anderson took a big step down the leagues when he signed for division two club Juventus Trident. The club, which narrowly missed promotion to the top division last year, has been negotiating hard in the transfer market in an



STEVE GLOCKNER ... Plenty to offer, but to which club?

attempt to get a side which finally will crack the divisional premiership.

Croats Strike

Croatia also are looking to win the League and gain entry to the XXXX League and have strengthened their side by signing former Brisbane City NSL defender George Caird and ex-Lions and Ipswich United utility player Mark Atmore.

Redlands, who won the nod to become the 12th XXXX League team this season, have been talking to a host of players. Those likely to sign include Lions NSL fullback Michael Mul-

vey, ex-City NSL midfielder Bevan Bohan and possibly Mount Gravatt midfielder Harry Stewart.

Other moves already this season have seen Grange Thistle's Rothman's medalist Keith Marsh go to Lions, Lions' Tom McGregor to Mount Gravatt and Lions' NSL pair Rod Vasquez and Wayne Evans go to City. City are also negotiating with Mount Gravatt keeper Stu Woodruffe.

But with the XXXX pre-season tournament starting this week, there are certain to be plenty of more moves before the fixtures kick-off in a month.

youngsters filling the remaining two spots.

On his return Niven said he was unaware of the speculation that he might be listed.

"There was talk of a move before I went back to England, but I am happy to stay at Lions if the club wants me," he said.

Although the harsh Northern England winter restricted Niven's chances of playing football during his stay in Newcastle, he managed to get several games with a country side, Westerhope.

And one of his teammates was former Brisbane Lions and Heidelberg midfielder Robbie Vincent.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

ALAN NIVEN SAGA

FORMER Socceroo Alan Niven appears to have put the controversy of last season behind him and is ready to help steer Lions back to the NSL.

Scottish-born Niven, who played eight times for Australia and has more than 220 NSL appearances to his credit, grabbed the headlines first last season when, mid-season, he announced his retirement to take up a QSF Regional Director of

Coaching position in Bundaberg.

He was given a farewell at Lions then officially bowed out when he played for Queensland in the 1-0 win over New South Wales at Perry Park.

But just two months later, the 30-year-old Niven was in the news again when he sensationally quit the job and returned to Brisbane. He was immediately reinstated in the Lions team, which was battling to keep its place in the NSL.

At the end of the season, Niven announced he was returning to England and was unsure whether he would comeback to Australia.

Earlier this month Niven notified the club that he was on his way back to Australia and arrived in Brisbane last week.

SOS FOR CLEVER MARKETING MAN IN QUEENSLAND

THE Queensland Soccer Federation is looking for a promotions marketing man as the code in Queensland attempts to match its rivals.

Rugby League and Rugby Union have long been strong in the Sunshine State and have gained near-saturation media coverage. But now Australian Rules has joined the big two with the advent of the Brisbane Bears VFL team.

Interest in the Bears has even scared the Rugby hierarchy, and Soccer is in grave danger of being pushed into the realms of minor sport.

Mindful of that the QSF is about to embark on its most vigorous promotional year ever and are keen to get the right man to spearhead it.

"At this stage no definite guideline in relation to the position have been set," said QSF secretary Alan Vessey.

"We have advertised to see just who exactly is interested. We will take things from there."

Anyone interested in obtaining more details can write to: The Secretary, Queensland Soccer Federation, Perry Park, Mayne, Brisbane, 4006.

— GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE CROATIA'S CSR SPONSORSHIP

BRISBANE CROATIA, formerly known as Sunnyside, has a valuable sponsorship from CSR Gyproc.

A spokeswoman for the club said that the sponsorship is a big feature in financing the football organisation.

She continued: "I should make it clear that, whilst the Soccer Club is based on the property known as the Croatian Community Centre at Dunn Rd Rocklea, it is not owned by the Soccer Club."

"Some time ago the Croatian community bought out the Soccer Club and paid out its debts."

"The community built the clubhouse with the aid of a government grant."

"Sale of the ground has nothing to do with the Soccer club."

"It is currently being negotiated by the community organisation with the VFL club Brisbane Bears for \$1.5 million. Soccer would remain at the Community Centre."

Brisbane Croatia has a strong belief that its Soccer support will grow dramatically now that it can operate under its own name following the recent Queensland Soccer Federation decision to approve ethnic names.

— KEITH GILMOUR

DOLEFUL MCNAUGHTON DOES THE TWIST AGAIN

ONE of Queensland's Soccer most respected players, Coalstars Grand Final winning captain Mark McNaughton, looks set to bow out of the game on a tragic note.

The 30-year-old defender lasted only 45 minutes of his first game this season when his troublesome knee gave way.

McNaughton, the former New Zealand international who played in the NSL with Lions, has battled the knee injury for the past two years. It forced him out of the game midway through last season, but he heroically regained fitness to lead Coalstars to triumph at Perry Park last October.

The victory spurred McNaughton onto this season and he worked hard during the off-season to build strength in his weak knee. And he began training with confidence in January after

being untroubled in regular summer games of squash and tennis.

But in his first lunging tackle in Coalstars match against Olympic United, McNaughton's knee twisted yet again.

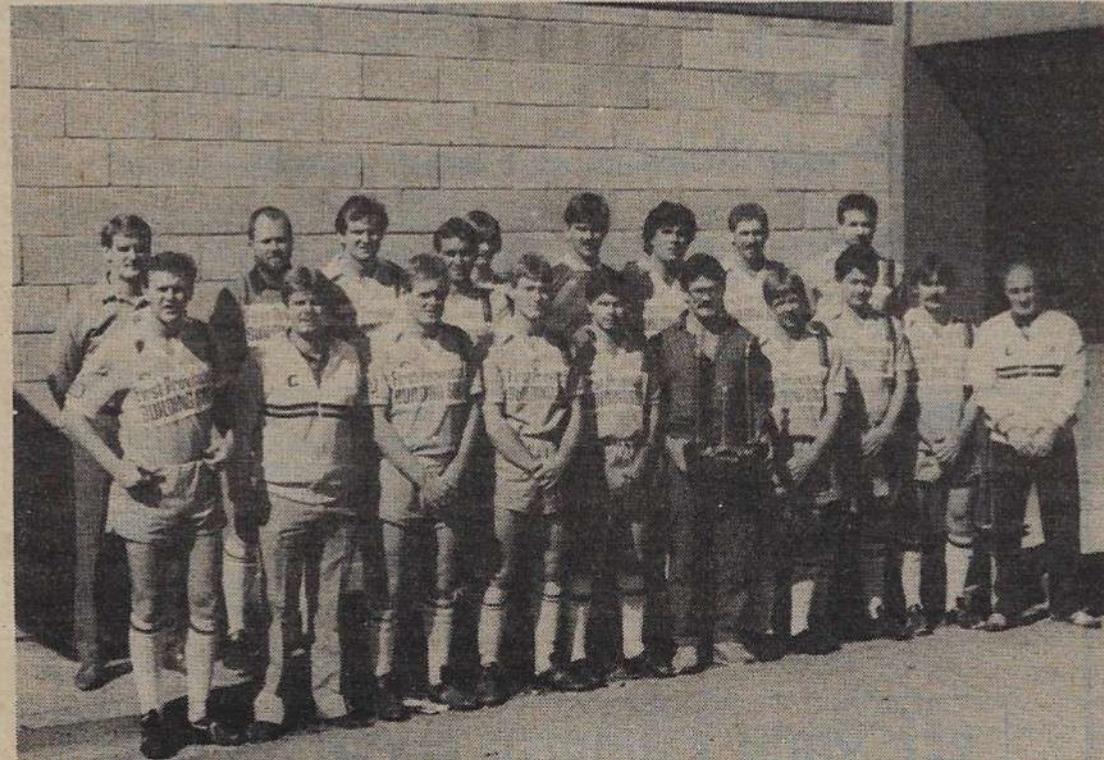
"Maybe the time has come to stop," a shattered McNaughton said afterwards.

"It never bothered me when I was playing squash and I thought it had come good. But the first time I put some weight on it and turned, it went.

"If I was five or six years younger, I might consider an operation. But at this stage of my career, I am not so sure."

Although he always has intended to get into coaching, McNaughton said that if he could not play he would give the game away completely for a year.

"If I was around the club I know I would start thinking about a comeback if things started



THE Coalstars squad that took out the Queensland State League by defeating rivals North Star 2-1.



The State League Story

MAN. UNITED, FOREST AND CELTIC ARE UNDER PRIVATE PROMOTION

SO we're off again on another "international series".

It came as a surprise when the Westway Group was named as the promoters behind the series involving Manchester United, Nottingham Forest, Celtic and the Socceroos scheduled for May-June.

We were under the impression that after the fiasco of the last venture and the announcement that from now on the Australian Soccer Federation would run all tours, that no private promoters would be allowed near a Soccer ground again.

Peter Sheean, who copped so much flak last time round and has now vanished from the Soccer scene, appears to have been replaced by Brian Haffenden, a likeable Londoner from Perth, where Westway is based.

But the English agents are the same as those involved when Sheean was running the "travelling circus."

And Haffenden has the same philosophy as Sheean of "positive thinking" when we pointed out other tours had been disasters and crowds reached no where near the expected peak.

"We've done our homework and the fans will come," said Haffenden when he paid a flying visit to Adelaide.

And he had no fears about packing Hind-

marsh Stadium two nights in a row for the Celtic — Forest game on Friday, May 29, then the Celtic — United game on the Saturday night.

Query

But we still have reservations about the set-up, particularly all night games and the Sydney and Melbourne ones being on a Monday and Wednesday.

Then then are the four in Perth, including the doubleheader finals!

And can Adelaide afford two games in succession?

The format has all the makings of another fiasco, although the Socceroos will benefit and the fans who idolise the overseas clubs will get their fill — provided everything is fair dinkum.

Like full strength teams, and not the makeshift effort United brought last time with re-

serves, guests and Gordon McQueen playing on one leg, while Forest's training sessions appeared to consist of playing indoor cricket.

Then on another occasion we had the drama when the Greeks refused to come until they got their money, and the ASF threatened to sue them.

They never did come and the ASF never did sue, I believe.

We understand the Socceroos have been guaranteed \$80,000 for their games, while the SA Soccer Federation has been promised \$10,000 for staging the two games in Adelaide.

Add the total of \$20,000 prizemoney, the cost of flying three teams here and four around Australia, not to mention the motel bills, plus the guarantees to the overseas clubs and that's a "lotto" loot.

But Brian Heffenden has no qualms: "Let me worry about the money and you give us the publicity. The tour will be a success."

We wish him lots of luck.

"GOOD LUCK" SAYS TOM MCKAIN



GRAHAM JENNINGS gets the ball away against Manchester United's PAUL McGRATH in a 1984 tour match in Australia.

NORTHERN NSW UPDATE

A COMEBACK FOR ALF QUILL

FEW people like being hospitalised. And Alf Quill is no exception.

The 76-year-old former super forward was, at the time of writing, a patient in Wallsend District Hospital, receiving treatment for a leg ulcer and looking forward to the time that he could be out and about again.

It was, in fact, his first stay in hospital for nearly 60 years.

Those followers of the game who can recall the days of the NSW Soccer Association, will remember Alf Quill and his goalscoring achievements.

In 22 seasons involving 522 games for Leichhardt-Annanade, Goodyear and Wallsend, he scored 926 goals. In all games during his career, he netted 1002, to leave him second only to the great Brazilian, Pele, even though the class of football may differ.

Quill began his career in Sydney and, in one year in Second Division with the Goodyear club, destined to become one of the best teams of its era, he scored 115 goals.

In 1932, he moved to Newcastle to accept an offer to join Wallsend. He soon returned to Sydney, but moved back to the industrial city in 1937 in search of work.

In that year, he started work at the Newcastle Steelworks and, with Wallsend again, set a national record of scoring 70 goals in 20 games.

He increased the total to 92 for all games played that season.

During his years in the NSW State League, he was the league's top scorer II times.

From the late '30s to the mid-'40s, Wallsend's Quill-Reg Date inside-



REG DATE ... scoring wizard.

Alf Quill played for Australia in 17 full internationals against New Zealand, the England Amateurs, China, Palestine and India. He also represented NSW against every other State.

As an indication of the class of Alf Quill and Reg Date, the captain of the 1937 England Amateur team, Bernard Joy, commented that the duo would be sensations with any of the English First Division clubs.

This writer, who had to oppose them on many an occasion, had no argument with that!

DAVE WILLIAMS

FULL-TIME COACHING?

BY DAVE WILLIAMS

AN advertisement that appeared sev-

eral times last week in The Newcastle Herald's 'Positions Vacant' column, has caused a great deal of interest among the Newcastle football fraternity.

The advertisement, which was not placed prominently, sought applications from suitably qualified applicants for a full-time 'permanent' player-coach, the salary to be negotiable.

Applicants were required to have overseas experience to British Second Division standard and be trained in or have experience in the health and fitness industry.

But, with a post office box number to reply to, no one — other than the person who placed the ad — has any idea of with which club, or organisation, the successful applicant will be involved.

There are two interesting aspects arising from the advertisement.

Most of the top clubs in the Northern NSW First Division have appointed their coaches by now for the coming season.

Those that have not and any others in the Second or Third Division, would be unlikely to have at their disposal the \$25,000 or so necessary to reimburse a full-time player-coach.

So, who does that leave?

It's certainly intriguing, but we'll try to find the answer and report it in due course.

THE OK FOR SUPER CHARLIE VILLANI

ADELAIDE HIGHLIGHTS

RUMBLINGS about super midfielder Charlie Villani needing a knee operation have proved false.

The Adelaide City ace was back in action, after missing the first two games in the Ampol Cup series with fluid on his right knee, in the final minor round.

Scott Holdup

Melbourne Croatia look like having to wait "forever" to get a clearance for Adelaide Hellas all-rounder Alan Scott.

As we went to press Scott had still to lodge his appeal against his transfer fee — \$25,000 — with the SA Soccer Federation.

He had left for Melbourne to seek assistance from Croatia and the Victorian Soccer Federation, but the latter can do nothing as the appeal

must be made through the SA body as Hellas is now back in the SA State League.

Celtic Prices

Adelaide's Celtic fans are saving hard for the Scottish champions visit to SA where they will play two games — against Nottingham Forest and Manchester United — as part of the Westay Inter-national series.

The Scots play at Hindmarsh Stadium on Friday, May 29, then Saturday, May 30.

With stand seats expected to be \$19 a pop, and the outer \$16, fans face an expensive weekend, particularly if they are family men with a predicted \$13 charge for children in the outer.

Sergio Recovers

Socceroo Sergio Melta has declared himself fully fit.

The Adelaide City

midfielder has been playing in the SA Ampol Cup summer series but had to prove he had recovered from an arm break suffered during the State team's tour of Penang last December.

After a tentative start he is now throwing himself around with gay abandon and should be right for the Socceroos' program in May.

No McGachey

Nell McGachey, former Adelaide Hellas captain and coach, is back on the training track — but denies he is considering a comeback.

The 33 year old midfielder or sweeper is training with State League club Birkalla.

"I just want to keep the old body ticking over," he explained.

"At this stage I have no plans to play again."

Bobby's Fitness

Bobby Ferguson, former West Ham and Scotland goalkeeper who also played for, then coached Adelaide City, has turned to rugby.

He is now fitness coordinator for the Burnside Rugby Union Club.

Ferguson had a spell with State league team



CHARLIE VILLANI ... fit again.

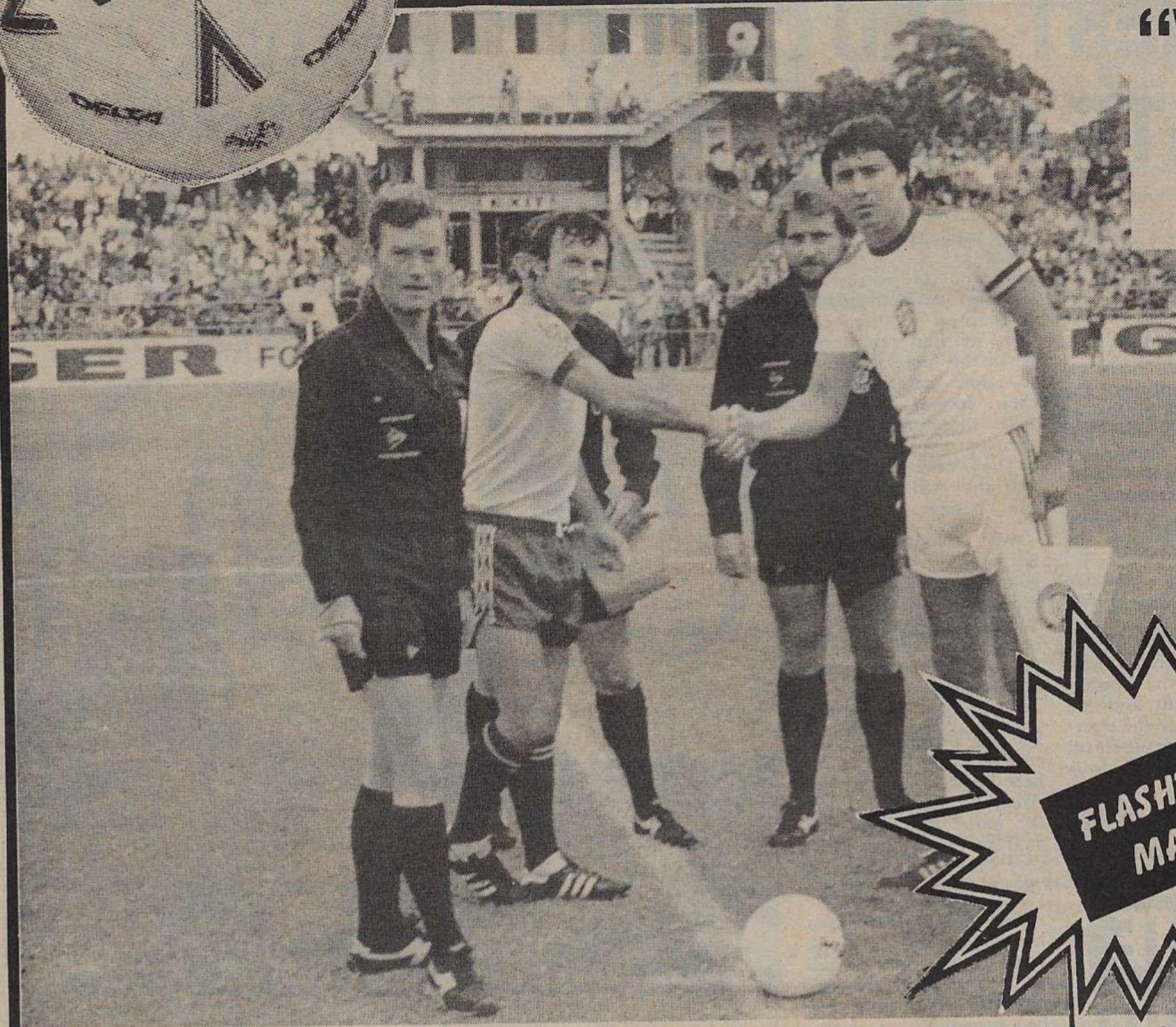
Birkalla after he quit City when it refused to buy more players, then departed the local side along with officials when club policy clashed with what they were trying to do with the club.

Ferguson has a head start in his new job as Burnside won the West End trophy for the first time last year.

TOM MCKAIN



SERGIO MELTA



JIM ROONEY shakes hands with Czechoslovakian captain Anton Ondrus before an international match at Sydney Sports Ground. The referee is Tony Boskovic and linesman Gary Power.

"WEE JIMMY" ROONEY FAMOUS SOCCEROO TURNED COACH

THE name of Jim Rooney is one which will remain intertwined inextricably with that of the Australian national Soccer team — the Socceroos.

In all Rooney played 100 games in the green and gold — 54 in A internationals and 46 in other matches.

Only the great Peter Wilson, captain of Australia in the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany, has bettered Rooney's record.

Wilson chalked up 114 games — 63 A internationals and 51 others.

Rooney first saw light of day at Dundee in Scotland and went on to play with Montrose in Scotland and Peterborough in England.

He came to Melbourne in 1968 and joined the Melbourne Ukrainian Club, USC Lions.

From there he came on to Sydney to Prague club and in 1972 he joined the great APIA team of the day.

They carried everything before them before he joined Marconi, after which he "went home" to Melbourne.

Rooney's build-ups, often from deep in the corners of his own half, were so often his trademark.

Whenever he got into trouble he had tremendous determination to fight his way through to success.

Rooney deservedly went on to captain Australia.

Today he is assistant coach with Sunshine Coast George Cross — right hand man to another Duncanian, John Gardiner.

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MIKE JOHNSON
SOCCEr Skills

PICTURED ... Australian International DAVID MITCHELL in control and on the move.

DAVID MITCHELL ON THE BALL

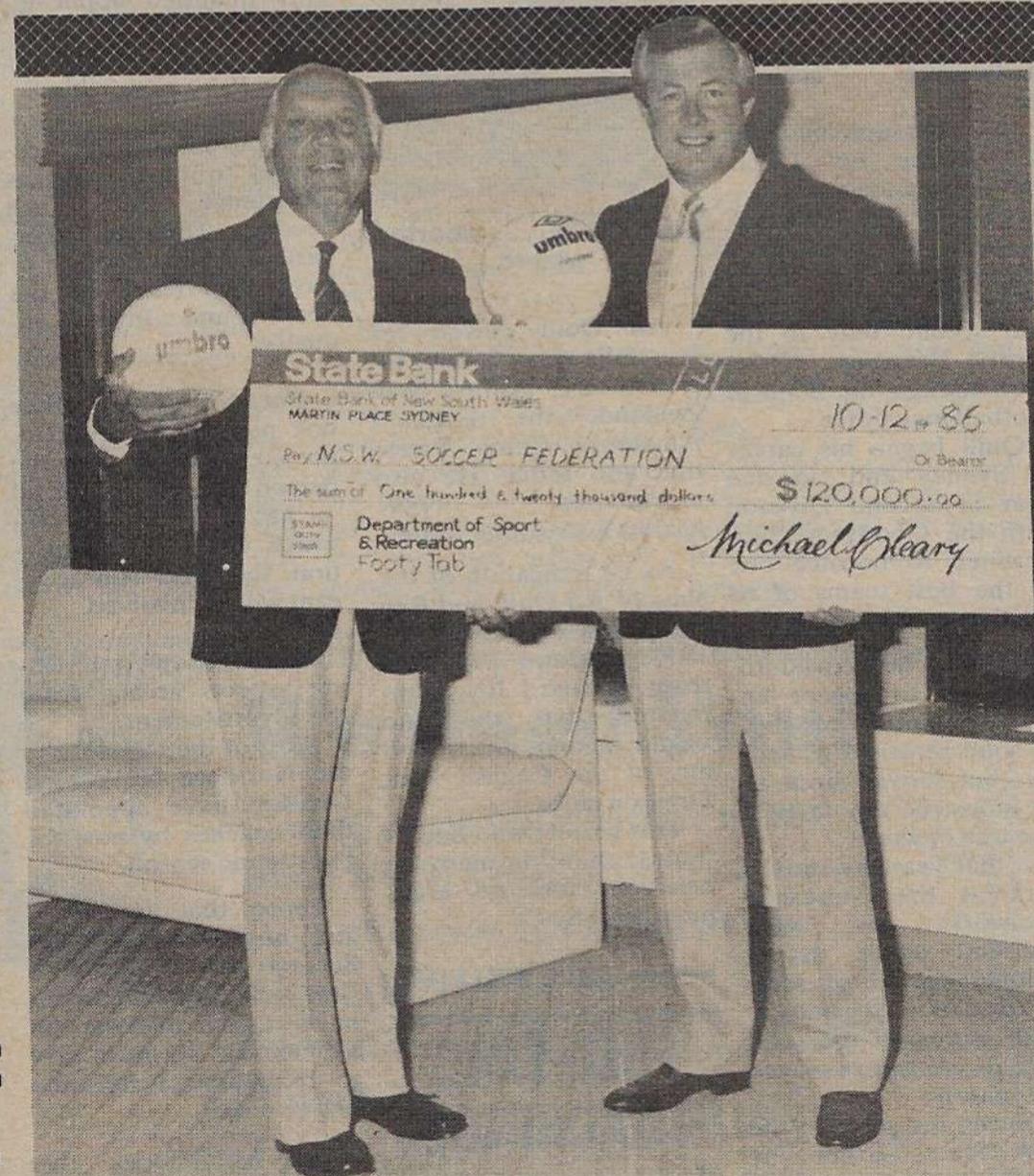
LAST WEEK, AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY provided some illustrations from Mike Johnson's Soccer coaching book, "Soccer Skills".

Johnson's neat midfield build-ups in his heyday as a player in the English First Division and with the great South Coast United side in Australia were an object lesson to the youngsters of his era.

In "Soccer Skills" in written content and with drawings and photographs, his concise ideas on the game are set out.

"SOCCER SKILLS" is available as a wonderful aid to players and coaches through ABC Shops and all good bookshops.

PICTURED ... Australian International DAVID MITCHELL in control and on the move.



NSW Soccer headquarters at Parklea continues to grow with money from Footy Tab. NSW Minister for Sport and Recreation, Michael Cleary (right), recently presented a cheque for \$120,000 to NSW Soccer Federation treasurer and the guiding light behind the Parklea development, Charlie Valentine.



AULDEN BROWN... referee to NSW secretary.

St George goalkeeper coach NICK SOKOLOFF has the job of handling the five keepers currently with the club. Leading the brigade is Socceroo Mike Gibson. George Bohoutsos has joined up from the Sydney Olympic Youth side of 1986.

ADVERTISING FOR PLAYERS AND COACHES?
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BRISBANE Lions midfielder John Ogden has had an unlucky start to the year, after spending the off-season training in Holland.

The 26-year-old Ogden contracting a liver infection during his overseas holiday which only flared when he returned home.

At first doctors diagnosed hepatitis, which nearly prompted mass inoculations at Richlands. Exhaustive tests finally revealed the problem.

Ogden was eventually cleared to start training only last week, after losing much of the fitness and tough edge he had acquired during his Dutch holiday.

THE Border guards are always alert and even the ASF's Brian Emery and the NSL's Stefan Kamasz cannot escape undetected. Brian was spotted during a short holiday on the Gold Coast earlier this month while Stefan was sprung by a local journalist during a brief stopover at Perry Park last week.

The NSL executive certainly wasn't on a holiday but appeared well contented after what could well have been a lunch of spaghetti with last year's Brisbane-based NSL Cup sponsors, Nanda.

WHAT has happened to Stephen Knight? After an excellent season, he was suspended late last year by Blacktown City for playing Indoor Soccer the night before a major game.

After a great season in the NSL, it is a wonder that he is not back training.

AULDEN BROWN

NSW Soccer Federation secretary AULDEN BROWN will be retiring from his post in June after a lifetime in the sport.

In other years he was president of the former Northern Suburbs Soccer Football Association and Lane Cove United SFC, now combined into the vast Ku-ring-gai District.

From local referee he moved up the ladder to become a regular whistler in the NSW State League, later taking over his present position and handling the general administration and various competitions and tour arrangements in the state.

AFTER a hectic few months which saw Queensland's Bruce Stowell help guide the Australian Under 16's to Canada, the former Rothman's medallist opted for a quiet Gold Coast holiday.

Few knew of his destination as he sought to get away from Soccer for two weeks after an extremely busy 12 months.

But Bruce and his wife Jenny were spotted relaxing on their Rocks Resort balcony at Currumbin by a prominent Brisbane Soccer journalist and a number of local players who had booked the unit directly above for a weekend.

GRANT LEE has had a hamstring strain and has missed turning out for Sydney City. Meanwhile the young striking combination of Abbas Saad and Tony Parish have been gaining more experience.



STEVE O'CONNOR appears to be getting even keener as the seasons go by. He began training this year at his best playing weight, which is four kilos less than what he was carrying at the same time last year.

IAN SOUNESS, Sydney City's utility man, has a great chance to re-establish himself this year. After three years out after a major back injury he made his comeback last season. If he can fire anything like he did before the injury he will be a big asset to the Slickers once again.

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STEVE KNIGHT... where are you?

TO Eddie Thomson TOMMY McCULLOCH is the outstanding midfielder in Australia. Eddie says: "Tom is a manager's dream. He never has to be told to work hard and he automatically knows when to release the ball."

QUEENSLAND Soccer Federation assistant secretary Jim Gilbert has been keeping a close watch on English First Division club Nottingham Forest in recent weeks. Jim's son Mark has been training with the club during an English holiday.

He returns to Brisbane Club Taringa Rovers this week, no doubt a lot fitter and wiser for the experience.

AFTER coming to Sydney for a couple of years and recently getting the all clear on a major health problem, referees' official ROY PEARCE has return to the Taree district. One of Australia's most experienced referees' officials, his advice will be sorely missed in Sydney.

ST GEORGE striker ANDY KOCZKA has had a medical ligament operation, under which the surgeon stapled the ligaments back to the bone. He expressed confidence that Andy will be back to his very best shortly, without any effect from the surgery.

CLINT GOSLING is due back from New Zealand on Wednesday after being in the New Zealand squad for the two games against Dinamo Minsk. At the \$6,000 transfer fee in his Newcastle contract, Gosling was a great purchase for Sydney City.



St George star PEDRO RICOY.

THREE St George midfielders who have been showing out well are Pedro Ricoy, Craig Moffitt and Alan Pottier. The latter joined the Saints from the Stirling Macedonia club in Perth.

BLACKTOWN CITY is trying out Englishman Billy Jeffery. He came out with Peter Denyer, who for the time being is playing in midfield instead of the defence.

NSW is on the right coaching path after an unbelievable delay in getting underway. Very satisfied with his dedication and ability, the NSW Soccer Federation has signed a three year contract with present director, ALAN VEST.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

SOCER

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DENTON AT 42 STILL KNOCKS IN GOALS DOWN IN TASMANIA

SIR Stanley Mathews did it in England at top level and now Australia has a man who refuses to let age force him to hang up his boots.

This player, himself an expatriate Englishman, seems to be possessed with the same initiative and drive — if not obsession — to keep playing Soccer and scoring goals.

Mike Denton by name, the former St George record goalscorer now living in Burnie, Tasmania, at the ripe old age of 42 (not out), is still knocking in goals playing for Burnie United.

And if that alone is not an amazing feat, what is even more remarkable is that nowadays he is doing his scoring from the sweeper's position.

Goalscorer Defender

Last year, playing as a free-back for Burnie United, Mike Denton scored 18 goals, a number that even the great Franz Beckenbauer would have traded his sauerkraut

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

started the season most sceptically after very narrowly escaping relegation in 1968.

Back in 1967, the Saints had a magnificent season under the guidance of master-coach, Laurie Hegyes, culminating in a spectacular 5-2 Grand Final win over the powerful Italian-backed club, Apia at the Sydney Sports Ground.

But Hegyes warned the St George officials that 1969 would be a highly dangerous season if more players were not signed up.

Too many stars retiring during 1968 had severely weakened the Saints.

In 1969 the Saints brought out from Yugoslavia, current national coach Frank Arok, to investigate the very first Aus-



MIKE DENTON beats yet another opponent in his heyday with St George.

for.

The diminutive Denton, one of the most intriguing players ever to play for St George, knocked in a massive record of 82 goals for the club between 1969 and 1973.

Intriguing because Mike, as a central striker, didn't ever look the part to become a record goalscorer.

Standing no more than 5'6" in his St George socks, rather podgy and not possessing a lethal shot in either boot, Denton was more akin to a ball-boy for St George rather than being destined to become one of the club's most lethal scorers in its 30 year history.

In 1969, St George

Australian club appointment of a fulltime manager-coach.

Arok completely revitalised the St George structure with new European concepts, both on and off the pitch.

As well, he signed up Australia's World Cup striker from Melbourne, the ball-playing, slender built, Atti ('Zoom-Top') Abonyi.

New "Ball-Boy for the Saints"

But at training one night at St George, a young-looking, short, milky-white English lad with a pair of scruffy boots slung over his right shoulder, turned up looking for a run

"He is on a lucky streak," the Smart Alecs justified.

That streak lasted for five years which brought St George 82 goals.

Not a bad effort from a player who looked like a ball-boy and one who himself admits, has no shot.

With Denton's goals raining in on St George opponents, the Saints soon rocketed up the League to hit the top in 1969 through to 1976.

Denton soon became a crowd favourite with his 'soft-goals'.

Crowd Favourite



ADRIAN ALSTON ... Denton contemporary.

with the mighty Saints.

Having just arrived from England, (Winchester in Hampshire to be exact), Michael Denton had a great desire to join St George.

"Must be a new ball-boy", they said.

Arok, ever-so willing to cast an eye over any new material, told Denton, (with extreme reservations), to strip and get out onto the pitch with the other lads.

The other St George players, and at that time there were nine full international squad members including Johnny Warren, Atti Abonyi, Jimmy Fraser, Manfred Schaefer, Donny Sandell etc.) looked bewildered at the short, blond, fair-skinned new player as he trundled out of the dressing rooms.

During training matches that followed, Denton would score two or three goals every session.

"But in a match situation this bloke will not threaten anyone with his cream-puff shots," the smart pundits cracked.

Well Arok stood by Denton and selected him in the first line-up.

Match after match, little Denton ducked and weaved his way around giant centre-backs to knock in goals with monotonous regularity.

His central strike partner at the time was giant fellow English forward, Adrian ('Noddy') Alston.

'Noddy' would climb for the crosses zipped in by Abonyi from the right or Alan ('Helmet') Ainslie from the left, to knock them down for the little Denton to clean up.

"He is on a lucky

Not possessed with a powerful shot, Denton would sniff around the box waiting for the loose ball to pounce on and head for the net.

Always from eight to 12 metres, Denton would pick his spot and gently knock in his goal to earn his meal-ticket with the Saints.

Many a time, Denton's soft, tapping shots would take ages before the ball entered the net.

"You don't get any more points for breaking down the nets," Denton once philosophically lectured a fanatical supporter who had dared question the velocity of his shooting power.

Australian Touring Squad

Denton soon made the Australian team that toured England in 1970, a dream he never considered would ever materialise.

That Australian team

played matches against Luton Town and Manchester City, teams that Denton, had he remained in England, could only hope to watch from the terraces or on the box.

Yet his newly adopted country had given him the opportunity to play against the mighty professionals.

Denton ended up scoring four goals for Australia.

involved heavily with junior coaching and looked forward to the 1974 Soccer season in his new home state.

Well what a way to hit Tasmania.

That year, Denton was at it again. He broke the club's and the Northern Tasmanian goalscoring record with 44 targets for the season in just 22 matches.

Denton had really arrived.

But in 1975 he went one better, scoring 45 goals in 22 matches plus another 17 in pre-season competitions as well as coaching the Spartans to win the Tasmanian Northern League.

Back to England

From 1976 to 1977, Denton returned to England and played for Croydon — former Socceroo Ray Richards' former English club in the now Vauxhall-Opel Football League — and helped that club gain promotion to Division 1 of that League.

Back in Tasmania, in

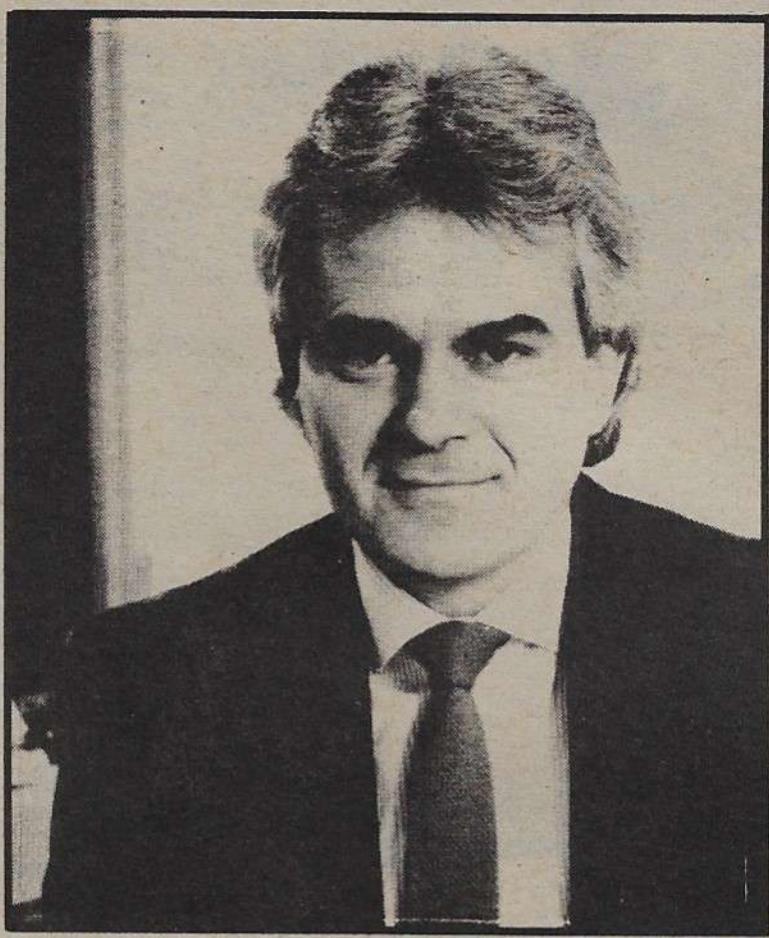


LAURIE HEGYES ... Saints' master coach.



MIKE DENTON snapped recently out on the paddock at Burnie, Tasmania.

SBS — T.V. SOCCER



LES MURRAY

SPORT REPORT

MONDAYS—8.30PM

"NATIONAL INDOOR
SOCCER"

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"INTERNATIONAL"

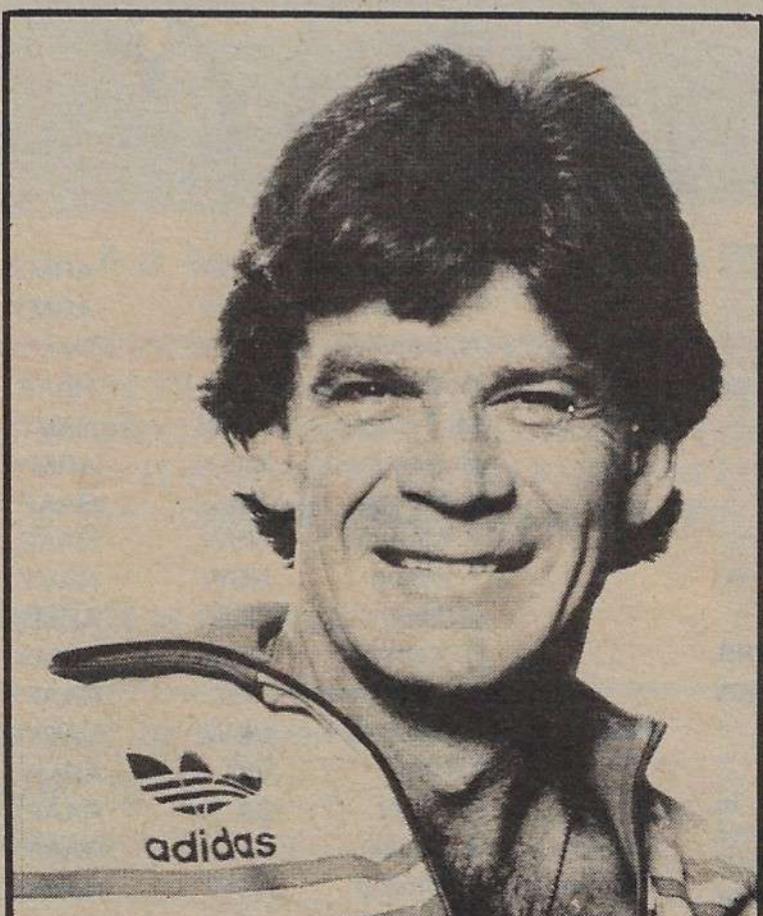
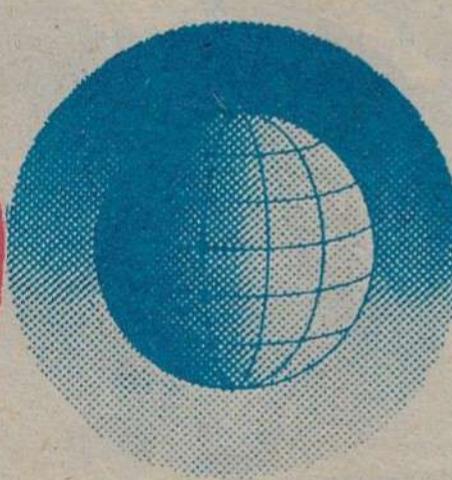
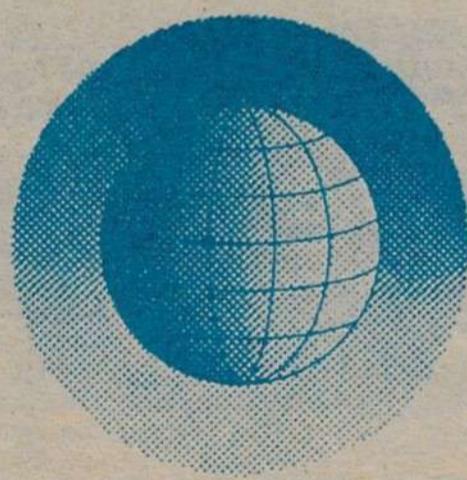
WEDNESDAY—8.30PM

"AUSTRALIA"

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MIKE HILL



JOHNNY WARREN

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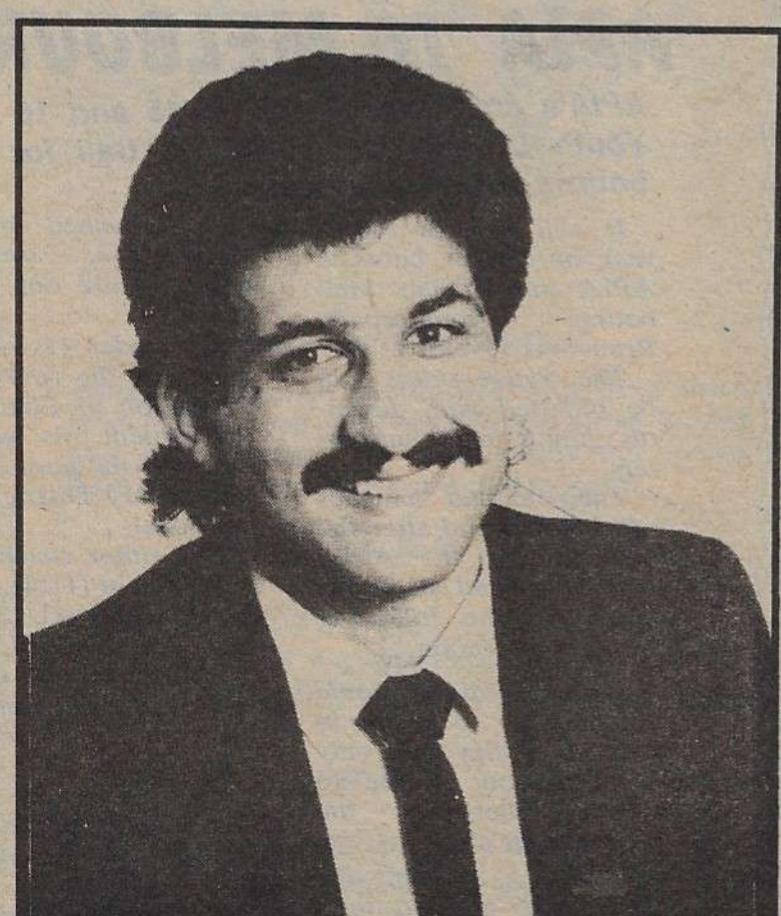
WORLD SOCCER

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ANDY PASCHALIDIS

AUSTRALIAN COMBINED SERVICES 1986 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Final standings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NSW	4	4	0	0	11	2	8
SA	4	3	0	1	12	4	6
QLD	4	2	0	2	7	6	4
VIC	4	1	0	3	7	6	2
ACT	4	0	0	4	2	21	0

The ACSSA Interstate carnival has been competed for since 1978.
Previous winners are:

1978	at RAAF Sale VIC
1979	at Newcastle NSW
1980	at Duntroon ACT
1981	at Duntroon ACT
1982	at Duntroon ACT
1983	No competition
1984	No competition
1985	at DSU Randwick NSW
1986	at RAAF Sale VIC

Victoria
Queensland
Victoria
Victoria
New South Wales
—
Queensland
New South Wales



Action in QLD v SA match.

Queensland goalkeeper, Army's Steve Wellings punches the ball clear from a S.A. forward during a corner. South Australia won 2-1.



A corner and again the Queensland keeper flies high to clear.



Action in QLD v SA match.



APIA TO MELBOURNE

APIA's crack under 13, 14, 15 and 16 NSW Youth League teams hit the trail for Melbourne on Thursday week.

It will be the fourth year of clashes between APIA and Italian Melbourne counterparts Brunswick Juventus.

The Sydneysiders will be billeted with Juventus junior club supporters.

Their annual matches will be held and after the presentations the APIA lads will head back for home on the following Monday afternoon.

Juventus have some catching up to do as in four years they have only won two out of the 16 clashes between the teams of the clubs.

All teams are shaping very well, but the Maroons are certain that the

U13s, coached by Joe Mangiapane, are one side that are out of the box.

As Under 11s and 12s they won the NSW State Champion of Champions tournament, as well as scooping the pool in their Canterbury District competitions.

The other coaches are Tony Raciti (U14), Frank La Machhia (U15) and Robert Gabrielli (U16).

APIA's Youth League sides will again assemble at Lambert Park for their home games.

Club secretary Vince Aiello said that the club is pleased that the competitions in NSW Youth League this year will each have 14 teams.

AUSTRALIAN SERVICES VERSUS AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

A REPRESENTATIVE Forces side was selected to play the Combined Australian Universities following the tournament.

A magnificent trophy, won by the Universities in 1981 has been competed for since 1979, although there were two years where the matches were not played. Selected this year to represent the Australian Combined Services were:

RES	S. Wellings	QLD	ARMY
	J. Ellison	NSW	ARMY
	N. Sparkes	NSW	NAVY
	A. Campbell	NSW	RAAF
	M. Perrin	NSW	NAVY
	R. Hammond	QLD	ARMY
	K. Metse	SA	RAAF
	A. McArdele	NSW	RAAF
	T. Ayling	NSW	NAVY
	G. May	QLD	ARMY
	R. Kummel	QLD	ARMY
	I. McGibbon	ACT	RAAF
	T. Garside	NSW	NAVY
	A. Bray	VIC	ARMY
Coach	R. Pistor	SA	RAAF
Ass/Coach	R. Coulter	SA	RAAF
Strapper	Whiting	NSW	NAVY
	R. Gray	VIC	RAAF

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA STRIKE DIFFICULTIES IN STATE BANK LEAGUE

WOLLONGONG Macedonia need to get their house in order in a hurry on and off the field this season.

Having lost a number of players in the off-season, Macedonia didn't win a game in the State Bank Cup series and also lost a few friends when they didn't have a strapper for their game against Blacktown.

It was noticeable that coach John Frew was left to carry the bucket when any of his players went down injured.

With the NSW Federation promoting their games more than ever this season they will surely clamp down on such happenings.

Meanwhile Frank Demertzis is an unknown quantity tipped to do very well with Wollongong City this season.

After playing with Aris in Wollongong last season, he turned up at the Wolves' first training run before Christmas and asked for a run.

"I had never laid eyes on him before but he looked useful even though we had only a kick-round that evening," coach Fleming said.

"It was a bit of an experiment putting him in the side for the State Cup series but he came through with flying colours."

"He is typical of a local player wanting to improve himself and surely there are more of his type going around every week in the Illawarra premier league."

Walter's Break

Fairy Meadow Italia will have a new secretary this season, long-serving player Micky White having taken over from Walter Chichkan.

Chichkan, who has worked tirelessly for the club in recent years, has decided to take a break but will still remain on the committee and handle publicity.

His wife, Julie, has also put in many hours of work behind the scenes as assistant secretary in addition to her regular job in the club canteen.

Italia certainly can't afford to lose them completely in an era when loyal club officials are very hard to come by.

Gaffney Off

It was a bit embarrassing really ... Fairy Meadow Italia coach Larry Gaffney had enough problems without being sent off in a trial match.

Having his first season as player-coach, Gaffney was shown the red card in a trial match against Illawarra premier league opponents South Coast Croatia.

He said after the match he didn't think the incident warranted a send-off and he certainly has a lot on his mind just now.

With Fairy Meadow relegated from the State League, the club is hav-

ing big problems attracting experienced players.

Gaffney said when they played Croatia there wasn't one of last season's players available.

"I will have to concentrate a lot on young players and one of these looks to have an enormous future," Gaffney said.

He was referring to 16-year-old John Danzo, who just rode up on his pushbike three weeks ago and asked could be train with the club.

A striker, Danzo has tremendous pace, a good shot and played under 16's, under 18's and first grade with Balgownie last season.

Small Ball

Illawarra Soccer clubs boast some talented golfers with last season's champions Bulli taking the game really seriously.

In the summer months, Bulli stage weekly competitions on the Illawarra course, Madden's Plains.

Fullback Phill Bragg is a real big hitter and regularly turns in sub-80 rounds. Recently he had a foot injury, played in thongs and fired an 83.

Visitor, Claude Cellini, the Tarrawanna striker, came home in 79 in the last competition before the Soccer season got underway.

Bulli coach Norm Flanagan, a keen golfer, is keen to arrange inter-club games for Soccer players at the end of the season.

Shellharbour

The ISA have approved the popular night competition staged by Alfab-Shellharbour and competing clubs will be Shellharbour, Aris, Port Kembla and South Coast Croatia.

Shellharbour spokesman Otto Bader says the series will start on Thursday night, March 5 and players will appreciate the big improvements made to the lights at Barrack Heights Oval.

He is also confident the crowds watching the series will get full value for money with Port Kembla, the winners last season, early favourites to take the major slice of the prizemoney.

Bulli Trots Ahead

Bulli coach Norm Flanagan reports no early losses from the squad which went through last season's Premier League undefeated.

Flanagan's big problem could be pruning his senior players, with a number of new players having turned up at training.

Among the new faces is Alan Thompson, who

ILLAWARRA LATEST

was with Fernhill last season and played with Bulli a few years back.

Talented midfielder Warren Baker has resigned with the club after being with Wollongong City and Fairy Meadow in recent times.

"There have been one of two more at training and the numbers have been tremendous," Flanagan said.

"All our first grade players have indicated they will be staying despite a number of approaches from other clubs.

When you hear some of the offers they have been receiving just as signing-on fees they show great club spirit to stay at Bulli."

Despite their success over the last two seasons Bulli still don't pay their players any match fees.

Could be why they have such strong support among neutral Soccer people in the district — most people like to see the players turning out for the love of the game beat clubs flashing money around.

Wunsch at Meadow

Klaus Wunsch has joined Fairy Meadow Italia and is expected to partner Paul Meares in the middle of the defence.

Wunsch helped the Wollongong City youth team win the NSL championship two years ago then switched to Wollongong Macedonia last season as a left full-back.

A tall, strong defender, he will prove an asset to Italia coach Larry Gaffney who still needs to plug gaps in his midfield for the side to be a force in the Sydney Second Division this year.

Creighton to Coach

Brod Creighton has been appointed player-coach of Albion Park, one of the clubs promoted from the Illawarra second division last year.

Creighton played with South Coast Croatia before joining a Gold Coast side last season and has a preliminary coaching badge.

A physical education teacher, Creighton has no easy task now Albion Park are in a tougher division but his presence in the forward line should produce a few goals.

Bradford for Tarrawanna

Gary Masters coached Tarrawanna last season but decided to sit out this year and Wayne Bradford was appointed to the

job.

It is Bradford's first season in senior coaching but he will have a good back-up team.

The experienced Hugh Tinney is attending early season training sessions and has offered to go in the dressing room before games to talk with the players.

Then it seems Masters will still be around ...

He was a surprise arrival at training as a player and even managed to score a goal in the 3-2 trial win over a new-look Port Kembla.

Walker's Hope

One player expected to show his full potential in Premier League this season is Fernhill striker Glen Williams.

He was a real danger man for coach Gerry Walker last year but the Fernhill coach expects him to show his full potential in 1987.

Walker said Williams has a very deceptive turn of speed and is a very good finisher. "He is looking very sharp at our early training sessions," Walker said.

It might be just as well as Fernhill have lost the talents of Steve Quinn, who has moved to Sydney, and could lose another striker in Peter Thompson.

Thompson is taking on a technical college course to improve his work prospects with Illawarra County Council.

Walker is still hoping the Illawarra representative will decide he can fit Soccer in to his busy schedule.

GOING FORWARD VERSUS THE STEADY BUILD-UP

[RICHARD EVANS, Director of Coaching at Rockhampton, drew some startling conclusions from his check of the present game in England].

vers as unlucky not to figure in last year's World Cup final, English Soccer

was looking as strong as ever and the entertaining, attacking style was pulling big crowds back to the game, Evans said.

"We saw Southampton at home to Manchester United before a crowd of 21,000 supporters, then Manchester United away to Arsenal pulled 51,000 at up to \$A12 a head, at Old Trafford."

Excellence

Evans said a major contribution to football's future was being made by the professional clubs through the divisions.

Each club bankrolls its own Centre Of Excellence for promising schoolboys and in football-mad Britain they are the sporting elite.

They can look forward to being drafted into the professional team as a full-time paid apprentice.

"This nation-wide training system is backed-up by each club's talent scouting staff, so the best scouts land the best youngsters," Evans said.

Training under modern methods employed by his host club's under

son tournament kicked off this week with teams in four groups of three.

The groups are: Group A: Brisbane Lions, Olympic United, Redlands; Group B: North Star, Mount Gravatt, Rochedale; Group C: Brisbane City, Grange Thistle, Ipswich United; Group D: Coalstars, Easts, Taringa R.

The teams play the others in their group once with the top two sides advancing to the knockout phase.

Draw

The draw is: Wednesday, February 25: Lions v Olympic United (6.30pm), Coalstars v Easts (8.30pm); Friday, Feb. 27: North Star v Mt Gravatt (6.30pm), Grange Thistle v Ipswich United (8.30pm); **Sunday, March 1:** Olympic United v Redlands United (2pm), Coalstars v Taringa R. (6pm); **Wednesday, Mar. 4:** Mt Gravatt v Rochedale R. (6.30pm), Azzurri Brisbane C. v Grange Thistle (4pm); **Wednesday, Mar. 11 and Thursday Mar. 12:** Quarter-Finals (6.30pm and 8.30pm); **Sunday, Mar. 15:** semi-finals (1pm and 3pm); **Wednesday, Mar. 22:** Final (7.30pm).

Publicity

The QSF announced full details of the coming season at a huge media launch at Perry Park last week.

Sponsors and media were handed novelty "supporters kits" which included trumpets, whistles, hats and scarves along with a full outline of the season.

In addition to the XXXX pre-season tournament and the matches against the Fijians, Queensland also will undertake a 10-day tour of New Zealand.

The tour will include two matches against Auckland as part of the local Federation's centenary celebrations. The QSF also is negotiating for further representative games and is hoping the interstate series against NSW can continue.

The XXXX pre-sea-

18 youth and schoolboys' teams, Guy Rigby gained great benefits, while holding his own with his surprisingly robust teammates.

For Evans came the chance to observe some of the world's best specialist skill coaches.

Shilton

Current English goalkeeper and world No 2 Peter Shilton, of Southampton, gave him 10 hours of observation as he coached youngsters in effective keeping techniques.

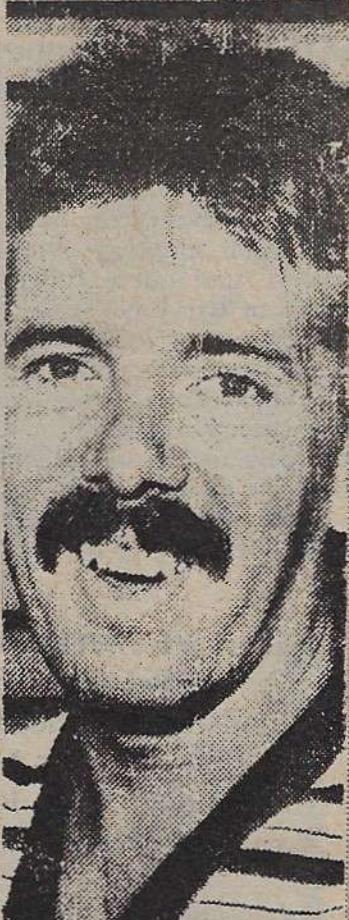
"I can't wait to pass on this invaluable experience, and the many new training methods to representative and club players and coaches here," Evans said.

Grateful for the help freely given by his English counterparts, Evans was most impressed by the discipline and respect he found in the training situation.

"Coaches maintain intense discipline over there, and are highly respected by their players. I found this extended to visiting coaches like myself."

"I am now convinced it is essential for Australian coaches to make similar trips to improve their own standards and gain more knowledge. A tendency among some coaches here to live on their past glories should be resisted, as this is just not good enough anymore."

"We must all find new, better ways to do our job."



RICHARD EVANS
Central Queensland



— GREG RUSSELL

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS NEW ZEALAND TOUR

AUSTRALIAN TOURING SQUAD TO NEW ZEALAND-JANUARY 1987

COACH CHRIS JAMES reports

JANUARY 5th-14th 1987

TOUR RECORD

January 6th v TARANAKI at New Plymouth
Australian Schoolboys: Middleton, Summers*, Butler, Nocciolino, Applebee; Wiseman*, Colli, Jolevski, Freeman*; Rackley, Gilbert*.

Subs used: Hughes, Kafoulis, Kilshaw, Badounnas, *substituted.

CONDITIONS were very warm for our first tour game against a senior side from the New Plymouth area. There was a good crowd on hand.

After a nervous start the side settled and proved too quick for the opposition. Jolevski stamped his class on the game in midfield and scored a first half hat-trick and Scott Gilbert showed opportunism to score twice.

All this happened in the first half! The back four began to settle with Butler and Nocciolino outstanding.

The second half was a disappointment with a bit of laziness allowing Taranaki to score twice. However an encouraging start to the tour.

Scott Rackley had a good game up front and Darren Freeman worked very hard as our left sided midfielder.

Final score: ASSF 5 TARANAKI 2

January 7th v WELLINGTON SCHOOLS at The Velodrome, Wellington

Australian Schoolboys: Paprocki, Hughes, Butler, Nocciolino, Applebee; Kafoulis*, Colli, Jolevski, Kilshaw*; Rackley, Badounnas*.

Subs used: Wiseman, Freeman, Gilbert.

AFTER a long journey from New Plymouth the side started very slowly.

The home side were aggressive and contained same very good players. We had made changes and were unable to strike any rhythm.

A defensive errors saw us go 1-0 down. We had a good spell mid-way through the half but could not convert and then conceded another goal on the stroke of half-time.

The second half was a different story and we totally dominated in a tremendous fight-back.

Oriano Colli coolly got the winner to cap a powerhouse display. Garry Applebee played strangely again and Rackley continued his improvement up front.

Final score: ASSF 3 WELLINGTON SCHOOLS 2

January 8th v WELLINGTON YOUTH at The Velodrome Wellington

Australian Schoolboys: Middleton, Summers, Hughes, Nocciolino, Applebee; Wiseman, Colli, Jolevski, Freeman*; Rackley*, Gilbert*

Subs used: Kafoulis, Kilshaw, Badounnas.

OUR third game in as many days saw us playing largely the same players as the previous night and we anticipated (and got) just as tough game.

However we really did settle into a better pattern of play. We played it out well from the back, despite the absence of our captain, Damien Butler.

Our strikers held the ball far better up front and all in all we played better.

Despite this it remained a fairly tight struggle and only a good goal from Rackley broke the deadlock.

Pat Hughes and Douglas Summers played steadily at the back in a good all round team effort.

Final score: ASSF 1 WELLINGTON YOUTH 0

January 10th v NEW ZEALAND Youth Side at Mt Smart Stadium, Auckland.

Australian Schoolboys: Middleton, Summers, Butler, Nocciolino, Applebee; Hughes, Colli, Jolevski, Freeman; Gilbert, Rackley.

FOR this game Pat Hughes was pushed into midfield and this proved to be a good move.

We started well against the strong and skilful Kiwis and the only chances we gave them came from sloppy distribution and being caught in possession.

The home side were unable to convert their chances as was Pat Hughes when presented with a great chance from a ball from Jolevski.

The second half was equally tight with same good chances to both sides but the deadlock was finally broken by Colli who turned quickly in the six yard box following a fine run by Rackley.

All in all a great performance considering the strength of the opposition and our relative inexperience.

Final score: ASSF 1 NEW ZEALAND 0

January 12th v BAY OF PLENTY at Rotorua

Australian Schoolboys: Paprocki, Hughes*, Butler, Nocciolino, Applebee*; Kafoulis, Colli*, Jolevski, Kilshaw; Wiseman*, Badounnas.

Subs used: Summers, Freeman, Rackley, Gilbert.

TIREDNESS was really creeping in as we tackled our fifth game after a day of travel and sightseeing.

We never really settled down and were unable to convert our chances.

It was a disjointed performance and a disappointment after our great win.

The large crowd were delighted with the result which was sealed when we had a blatant penalty denied us in the last minute.

However we did not deserve to win and full credit to the opposition.

Final score: ASSF 1 BAY OF PLENTY 2

January 13th v AUCKLAND SCHOOLS at Mt Smart Stadium, Auckland.

Australian Schoolboys: Middleton*, Summers, Butler, Nocciolino, Applebee; Hughes, Jolevski*, Kafoulis, Freeman*; Rackley*, Gilbert.

Subs used: Wiseman, Paprocki, Colli, Kilshaw, Badounnas.

OUR last game of the tour saw us put together some fine play and end things in fine style.

It was fitting that all the squad played in our last game and equally fitting that Justin Kilshaw scored the last goal of our tour.

In conclusion I felt all the squad contributed to the success of the tour with Butler, Nocciolino, Colli and Jolevski being the core of the side.

It was a delight to see players like Middleton, Freeman, Summers and Kilshaw who came into the squad do so well.

I would like to thank Duncan Summers for his advice, experience and help and Joe Larecki and Chapman Bonner for their invaluable contributions.

SCHOOL CUP FINALS SET IN MID AUGUST

THE finals of the Commonwealth Bank Cup and the Commonwealth Bank Shield are scheduled for sometime during the week ending August 14 with the OAK Bill Turner Cup on Wednesday night August 19.

These dates are parallel to last year's finals even though the schools now have a four term year.

It also heads off a problem of playing the school finals at the same time as junior Federations and Associations are preparing for their end of season deciders.

It is a case of co-operation all round.

FROM BILL TURNER

CRAIG Johnston remembered his old school last Christmas. The staff and students were delighted to receive a card from Craig, Jenny and the family.

★★★

ALL of the Newcastle-Hunter Region School Soccer personnel are back in office again this year.

It was thought that Paul Freeman, the Commonwealth Bank Shield convener, would stand down, but the Warners Bay High School teacher confirmed last week that he would again be caring for the CHS girls competition. He suggested that he would probably hand over the reins of the Regional side as his senior commitments were very heavy this year.

John Hobson, Booragul, will again control the affairs of the boys' Commonwealth Bank Cup competition, a position he has filled with considerable efficiency since taking over some years ago.

Dudley Lewis, Booragul, is again the co-ordinator for the OAK Bill Turner Cup in the Newcastle-Hunter area. He is hoping to have a couple more private schools enter, bringing it to almost maximum involvement.

Terry Hampton, Wallsend, is not going overseas this year as was previously thought and will again head up the organisation of the Bill Turner Cup. His assis-



DUDLEY LEWIS... OAK Turner Cup.

tant will be the proven administration Barry Kemp of Kurri Kurri High. President Bill Turner, Booragul, will as usual care for publicity and finance.

★★★

J.J. Cahill Memorial High School, Mascot, will have eight players in this year's OAK Bill Turner Cup side who played in last year's final against Cardiff.

THE man who headed up the OAK-sponsored Bill Turner Cup in Sydney over the past four or five years, John Moscovis, has been transferred from Epping Boys' High to Katoomba High.

★★★

STEPHEN Treloar has agreed to continue the UMBRO support as an official supplier to the Bill Turner Cup competition.

UMBRO balls were used in the 1986 final series while the two finalists received two brand new ones.



We Need You!

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we need our readers to supply us with information, photos, emblems etc.

Send your copy to
'The Junior Scene',
PO Box 406 Broadway NSW 2007



DUBBO AND MARRICKVILLE DEVILS U18 MEETING

AT the end of last season Dubbo's Newtown Devils met Marrickville Red Devils at Mackie Park Tempe.

The game started at a cracking pace with both teams showing speed on the wings.

Marrickville tried to chip and run down the centre of the field but became very frustrated

when the Dubbo backs played the off-side rule. Time and again the Marrickville centre — forward was flagged offside.

As Peakhurst United U/18 team had previous-

ly found out, the Dubbo boys play the offside rule very well with good linesmen (which was the case) and they were confident to keeping this style of game.

Two brilliant saves by

goalie Kelvin Blackett kept Dubbo in the game.

Things looked good until the Dubbo backs failed to clear the ball which allowed Marrickville to score two easy goals.

At half time the score was 3-0 against Dubbo.

Wayne Weeks was replaced by Peter Ramsey. The baby of 15 years of age, Geoff Dewar, moved from the right wing back to replace Wayne at left back and Peter went to right wing.

Dubbo was caught napping in the first minute as Marrickville scored another goal.

After that quick goal Dubbo players settled down to play good team Soccer. With the wind at their backs Dubbo was a side to be reckoned with.

Darren Yates was pulled down in the 18 yard box and Dubbo got a penalty and made the score 4-1.

Coach Peter Keller was very proud of his team's performance.

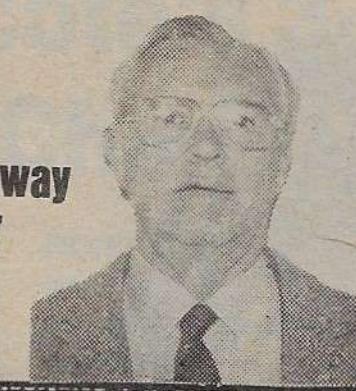
With just seconds to go Marrickville made a raid on the Dubbo goal and scored making the result 5-1.

The Dubbo team even though beaten they were not disgraced and learnt a great deal from their trip to Sydney.

The Junior Scene

ASW's Editor Keith Gilmour takes a look at the Junior Game.

PO Box
406 Broadway
NSW 2007



The biggest
Junior Cover
in Australia

DUBBO NEWTOWN UNDER 18 DEVILS



BACK ROW: Peter Keller (coach) Pat Everest, Wayne Weeks, Darren Yates, Geoff Dewar, Steve Smithson, John Rowe, Harvey Rowe Manager.
FRONT ROW: Danny Barnes, Dale Keller, Kelvin Blackett (goalie), Garry Taylor, Steve Dewar (capt.) Peter Ramsay.

DEDICATION WAS REWARDED

BILL PLIUM was one of those dedicated Soccer supporters who was a father image behind the scenes on the NSW Central Coast.

He was not actively involved in the administration of the sport but regularly supported worthy ventures for the betterment of the game.

The Soccer complex at Lisarow was one of his dream projects in which he was actively involved on the Steering Committee until his sudden death in January 1985.

Bill also in his younger days in the 1950's was one of the key players for the Brisbane Water District Association representative team and The Entrance United side which contested the Newcastle Second Division Competition.

He played a creative midfield role and was always prominent in 'Man of the Match' awards.

His greater achievement as a player was in the winning side of the NSW State Championships Final 4-2 against Hornsby at Wentworth Park, in Sydney in 1957.

After his playing days he readily sponsored Soccer interests and on several occasions funded overseas tours to Europe for Junior Representative teams.

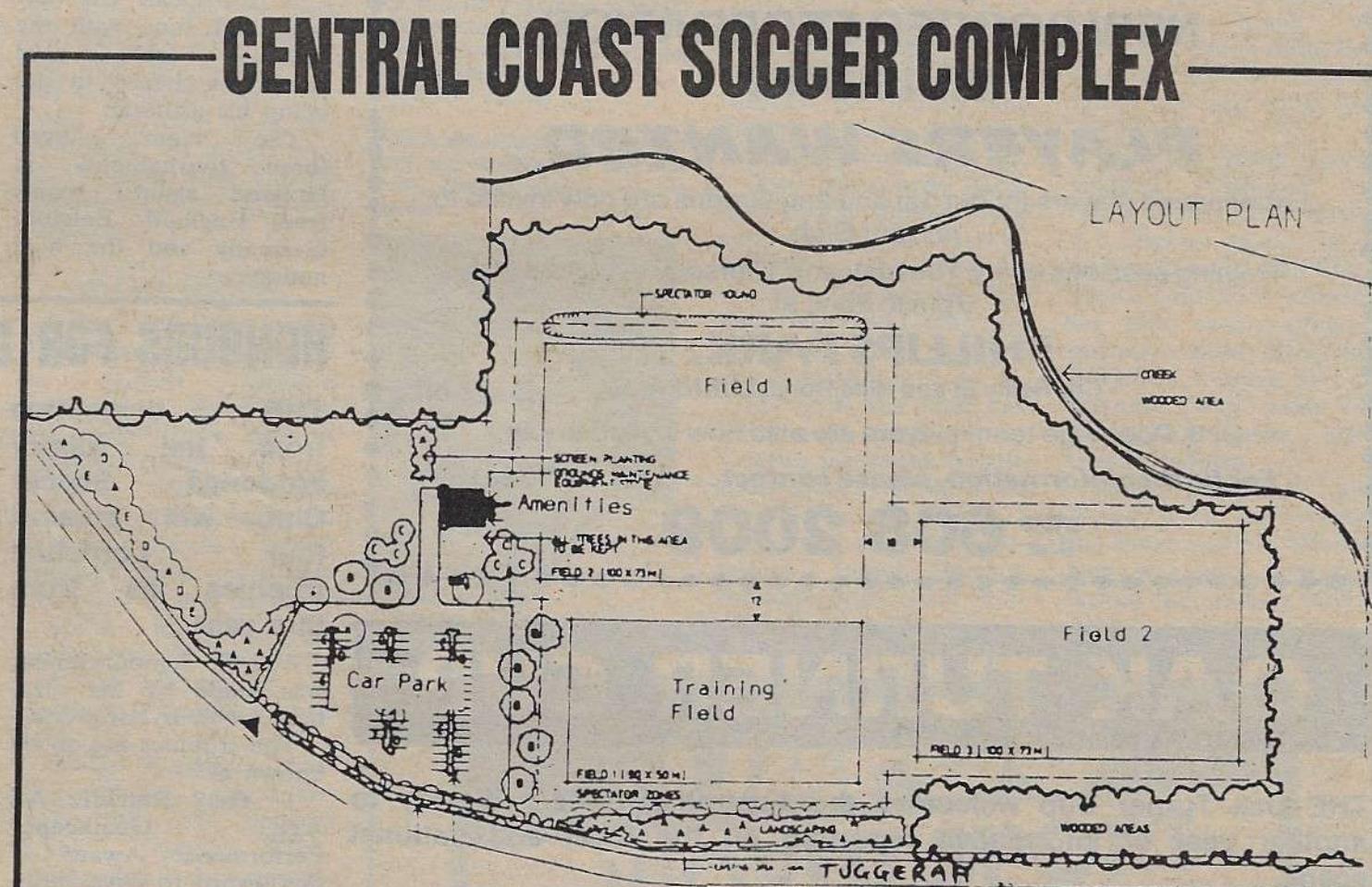
During these years he successfully established the Pluim Construction Company.

Bill Pluim was certainly a fine ambassador for the game he loved so warmly and it is a fitting tribute that the Central Coast complex he dearly dreamed of will be honoured by his name.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOY INTERNATIONALS — 1987 NZ TOUR

ASSF TOURING SQUAD TO NEW ZEALAND

PLAYING NAME NO.	SCHOOL	CLUB	POSITION	MISC. INFO..
2 Applebee, Garry (ACT)	Stirling College	Canberra City Olympians	Defender	NSW & ACT Rep
3 Badounas, Alex (SA)	West Lakes High	Port Adelaide	Mid Field	SA Schools
4 Butler, Damien (Qld)	Inala State High	Ipswich United	Defender	Australian U16's
5 Colli, Oriano (WA)	St Marks College	Perth Azzurri	Utility Player	WA Youth & Schools
6 Freeman, Darren (WA)	Cosnells High School	Gosnells City	Mid Field	WA Schools
7 Kilshaw, Justin (Qld)	Kedron State High School	Grange Thistle	Mid Field	Qld U16 & Schools
8 Gilbert, Scott (NSW)	Birrong Boys High	North Bankstown	Striker	NSW Schools
9 Hughes, Pat (SA)	Elizabeth High School	Elizabeth City	Defender	SA Schools
10 Jolevski, George (Vic)	Greenwood High School	Preston Makedonia	Mid Field	Australian U16's Victorian Rep
11 Summers, Douglas (Tas)	Hobart Matriculation College	Hobart University	Defender	Tas Schools
12 Middleton, James (Qld)	Camp Hill State High School	Annerley R.C.	Keeper	Qld Schools
13 Noccilino, Phillip (WA)	Aranmore High School	Perth Azzurri	Defender	WA Schools
14 Paprocki, Robert (WA)	Belmont High School	Maidavale	Keeper	WA Schools
15 Rackley, Scott (Qld)	The Gap State High School	Grange Thistle	Striker	Qld U16's & Schools
Koufalidis, Jim (S.A.)	Black Forest Priory College	West Adelaide Hellas	Mid Field	South Australian School
Wiseman, Michael (ACT)	Daramalan College	Belconnen United	Mid Field	ACT Schools
Bonner, Chapman (Qld)	Springwood State High School		Tour Leader	Immediate Past President ASSF Committee Member
Larecki, Joe (SA)	Enfield High School		Manager	Coach S.A. Schools
James, Chris (NSW)	Beverley Hills Intensive English Centre		Coach	Coach N.S.W.
Summers, Duncan (Tas)	Tarroona High School		Asst. Coach/Physio	Coach University Youth Side



THE Albury-Wodonga Soccer Association must be the "hot house" of junior Soccer goalkeepers.

During the last three years the association produced Michael Hocking, formerly with Inter-Monaro, Steve Mauntone — now goalie for the National U/16 team and also David Mower.



DAVID MOWER ... another Border keeper.

DAVID MOWER KEEPS UP THE TRADITION

Mower, who won a scholarship with the Australian Institute of Sport, has the making of another of Gordon Banks, the famous English goalkeeper of the 1960's, because of his unlimited talent.

FROM FRANK FINLAY

He has confidence, courage and anticipation, and he is a master of his penalty area. For young David the sky is the limit.

The Australian Youth preparation camp was one of the most important weeks in his career.

Mower, one of the finest products of the Border Complex Soccer, is hoping to force his way back in the team.

He trained solidly to try to make the Youth team for the Bangkok

tour, but a collarbone injury during training prevented his selection.

A former Murray High School student, he is on a scholarship at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

He has been training three times a day whilst in Albury.

"Injuring my collarbone was a great disappointment" Mower said.

"But I have worked on it very hard and it is now 100%."

"I became part of the furniture in the sports medicine section at the Institute for a while".

To get into the squad Mower would have to knock out either Brett Hughes (Sydney City) or George Bohoutsas (Sydney Olympic).

Travel Helped

He has been at the Institute for one year, and is sure his Soccer has improved dramatically in that time.

A European trip last May and June with the Institute team gave Mower a chance to develop his attitude.

The team played three tournaments in Holland against teams from England, Belgium, Germany and the host nation.

"The trip showed me Australia is not far behind the rest of the world at youth level," Mower said.

"It is senior level where we fall down. Senior players must be given more chances to train and practice — everything in sport comes down to practice".

The Institute has given David the training and specialised coaching he has needed to become a top class player.

His attitude and maturity have also developed in his time in Canberra.

"I am sure the Institute is helping improve the standard of Australia Soccer," he stated.

Mower 19, played with many junior clubs in Albury before he was taken under the wing of Chico Vojnovic, who gave him confidence and the right training.

"Chico opened my eyes as how far I could go," David said.

His two year scholarship will end in December next year and then he will be on his own.

"The thought of having to move around on a year to year basis does scare me a little... especially having to leave friends," he said.

HONOURS FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

THE committee from the Albury Wodonga Soccer Club will present four perpetual trophies as from this year.

The announcement was made by Mr Graham Gebbels last week.

The trophies are to be known as:

1. Tony Ratcliffe All Age Goalkeeper Performance Award — this award to cover both First and Second Division Players.

2. Tony Ratcliffe Colts Goalkeeper Performance Award — this award to cover players in the age divisions Under 14 Years and Under 16 years.

3. Ian Barker Youth Goalkeeper Performance Award — this award to cover players in the age division Under 8 Years and Under 9 Years.

Award — this award to cover players in the age division Under 10 Years and Under 12 Years.

4. Ian Barker Junior Goalkeeper Performance Award — this award to cover players in the age division Under 8 Years and Under 9 Years.

The trophies have been inscribed to achieve the objective of honouring Tony Ratcliffe and the late Ian Barker, in recognition of their respective contributions to the development of football, particularly in the Albury — Wodonga area.

— FRANK FINLAY

OAK TURNER CUP

THE Oak Turner Cup welcomes the Australian Soccer Weekly to another year of informative reporting on the local and national scene.

We would like to take this opportunity to announce that entries for the 1987 Oak Turner Cup competition are now being accepted.

Any school whether it be State, Private or Catholic and can field a team are eligible. The only restriction is, that being an U15 knockout competition students who turn 16 in 1987 are ineligible.

Any school in the Sydney Metropolitan Area, NSW Country and ACT are eligible. If you are interested please send the below entry form to the appropriate co-ordinator.

FOR SYDNEY FOR NSW COUNTRY & ACT

GREG MCGRISKEN
C/- PATRICIAN BROS, FAIRFIELD
268 THE HORSLEY DRIVE
FAIRFIELD

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WALLSEND 2287

ENTRIES CLOSE 28th FEBRUARY 1987

1987 OAK TURNER CUP ENTRY FORM

SCHOOL PH:.....

ADDRESS.....

COACH PH:.....

(FIRST NAME) (LAST NAME)

MANAGER PH:.....

(FIRST NAME) (LAST NAME)

HOME GROUND.....

SCHOOL COLOURS.....

TOP SHORTS..... SOCKS.....

NOTE: ENTRIES CLOSE 28th FEBRUARY 1987



MUM Lorraine welcomes son Guy back from his spell at the Dell. The Rockhampton Soccer Academy is sponsored by Australian Airlines, Capricornia Rockhampton Credit Union, Rockhampton Toyota, DC Motors, McNevin's Kawana Wreckers, Chippindale Motors and the Riverside International Motel.

Guy Rigby visits Southampton

RETURNING from one of the coldest winters endured in England for 40 years, Rockhampton Soccer Academy honours graduate Guy Rigby learnt first hand what it takes to make the grade in professional Soccer in Britain.

Rigby, 15, arrived back in Rockhampton from his 3½-week stint as a member of the Southampton's English youth league squad, where, on occasions, training was conducted in knee-deep snow.

The first graduate to come out of the Soccer Academy under regional coaching director Richard Evans, Rigby now has his sights firmly set on the national under-16 squad, for which he was a shadow player last year.

Rigby said he had learnt invaluable from his stay in England, training with the under-15 School of Excellence squad, as well as with the Southampton youth squad.

"One of the most striking features of the trip was the professionalism of all the players, not only the senior players, but right down to the under-13s, who are required to arrive at training in their club attire of slacks, jacket and tie.

"Their attitude is incredible and the fitness programs are extremely difficult.

"You must have the right attitude and be very disciplined, otherwise they just don't take you.

"Each first division

player has an apprentice and it is the apprentice's job to make sure his master has all his equipment and generally look after him," Rigby said.

Snow

Despite the bleak conditions, the strict training regimen was hardly ever altered, with the squad sometimes training in knee-deep snow with temperatures dropping as low as -15 deg Celsius.

"We had to do cross country runs in this huge park that was so big you could quite easily get lost in it. All the lakes were frozen over and all we had to protect our legs from the snow was long socks and boots," he said.

Rigby played against some of England's top players, including English centre half Mark Wright and Southampton first division player Danny Walsh.

"If you make a mistake, they make a point of really telling you off. There's a lot of pressure on you to perform. At first, I found it quite difficult, but after a few days I think I adjusted pretty well.

"What I learnt in the three weeks will really help my game, especially to be more aggressive. It was a real eye-opener."

With his trip now behind him, Rigby hopes to have a good year in the Central Queensland League for Frenchville, with the ambition of gaining a spot in the national under-16 side.

"With what I have learnt, I can now set myself higher standards and hopefully become a better player," he said.



AMPOL'S SPORTING RECORDS

AMPOL'S latest edition of their publication, "Ampol's Sporting Records" includes an excellent section on Australian Soccer.

The book itself, first produced in 1968, has reached its seventh edition and has been completely revised and updated.

The editor is highly respected journalist John Blanch and Soccer statistics have been provided by the Australian Soccer Federation and the State Federations.

Apart from World Cup and records from all states, there are many points of interest covering the entire period since the game was first played at Parramatta in 1880.

World Youth Cup records are included and there is a particularly noteworthy section covering the visits of the many overseas club teams which have visited these shores.

This very comprehensive sports publication is available at bookshops throughout Australia.

BETTER ADMINISTRATION

HERE is an open letter written to Soccer club presidents in the Ku-ring-gai District Soccer Association.

It was penned by Walter de Ste Croix, a life member and senior vice president of the association, who wants to see the code go on to better things.

The KDSA is at a very important stage of its life, maybe running out of steam, maybe succumbing to the problems of 1980's life; or maybe looking for new people to scale fresh heights.

The District has been well served by founder, president Don Allen, by excellent administrators Austin Sheath, Llew Thomas, Jim Flint, Tom Nossal, Fred Mason and (still active as our referees' president) John Hargreaves, and by dedicated and perceptive coach-innovators Dave Wardell, David Lee and John Davies.

In 30 years, Ku-ring-gai came from nowhere to have, at one and the same time, Sydney's best and biggest all age and youth competitions Australia's most modern mini-Soccer for primary school age children (adopted by us and by Tasmania's Education Department first), and Sydney's best-run, best-trained (and cheapest)

IS THE KEY

sporting actions of some players. Twenty years ago, send-offs were practically unknown here.

After 28 years involvement in Ku-ring-gai (and 10 elsewhere) as an administrator, as a referee and as a coach of adult and of junior sides in four different clubs and rep elevens, I can assure you that a factor contributing to all this is the falling standard of club administration.

Many club committees are short-handed or short-lived, some rarely meet, several send uninformed and uninstructed delegates to general meetings of the KDSA and worse still to the AGM's.

Too few concern themselves with the

standards of team management, co-operation with the association recorders, or with referees at games, or with recruiting referees, or with recruitment to the District Management Committee.

I can tell you from personal experience that little thought goes at clubs into coping with our changing times at association level, or into encouraging sporting attitudes within the clubs.

Discipline at all levels is breaking down, love of Soccer itself — as a game — seems to be vanishing. Winning is all, even down to under 7's for some, and all efforts are reserved for the 60, 80 or 90 minutes on Saturday.

Never mind that "it's the same at Gladesville" or at Granville or anywhere else. Surely Ku-ring-gai should be leaders, not followers?

It's now or never, I believe.

Your committee should be vitally concerned.

DALE ROWNEY SETS NEWCASTLE MOVING

BY KEITH GILMOUR

TWO goals from forward Dale Rowney in the 3-0 win over Uruguay Auburn in their last State Bank Challenge Cup game acted as a tonic on the Newcastle club.

The traumatic drop from the National Soccer League was followed by a player sale to realise funds to cover \$16,000 in debts.

Some of the players' contracts were owned by the Northern NSW Soccer Federation, who had to be paid out.

But, after horrific early round losses, Newcastle has begun to move ahead again.

► From p4

The solitary goal of the match was nailed into Sydney Olympic's net as early as in the 14th minute. And the hero was former Olympic utility player, Bobby Naumov.

Naumov gained possession on the right and slammed his 12 metre shot under the diving body of goalkeeper, Gary Meier.

Olympic's midfield trio of the 'Three Peters' — Kotamanidis, Raskopoulos and Katholos, failed to tackle tightly, and their ball-service, (especially to John Kosmina), was poor.

In the 19th minute, a corner on the right by

Raskopoulos found Soper's head which saw the ball fly goalwards from eight metres. But Blacktown City's alert goalkeeper, Steve Watson, tipped quickly over his cross-bar.

A well-executed cross from the right flank by fullback Emil Dragicevic in the 26th minute saw Kosmina smash a powerful 12 metre header just wide of the target.

Eight minutes before the break, Olympic's mid-fielder, Kotamanidis, ducked and weaved into Blacktown's box, but his seven metre drive flew over the top of Blacktown City's cross-bar.

Holding the slenderest of leads, Blacktown City just tackled and tackled

and tackled their hearts out.

But the moment they gained possession, Blacktown broke very fast with plenty of men in support.

Olympic's back-four line of Dragicevic, David Ratcliffe, Tony Dakos and Emmanuel Spagnoudakis, remained static in defence throughout the match, never breaking out to assist the attack.

The mobile, robust-tackling Olympic mid-fielder, Gary Phillips, came on as a substitute in the 67th minute to tighten up the midfield, but alas, it was too late.

Two minutes later, Kosmina 'scored' with a strong header from an Estavillo corner on the

right, but referee Gary Power ruled Kosmina had fouled goalkeeper Watson near the goal-line.

Olympic's flank-striker, Chris Kalantzis, also 'scored' near the end from a dead-ball move, but referee Power again disallowed the goal for another infringement.

A sad night for Sydney Olympic as their coach, Milan Lukis lamented after the match: "I have been taught a lesson tonight."

BLACKTOWN CITY: Watson: Moller, G. Sterrey, Reynolds, Northam, Jeffrey, Kay, Eileen, Sandy, Naumov, van Blerk (Sharpe 80th).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Moller: Dragicevic; Ratcliffe, Dakos, Spagnoudakis; Kotamanidis (Phillips 67th); Raskopoulos, Katholos (Estavillo 46th); Soper, Kosmina, Kalantzis.

Referee: G. Power.

TARINGA CEMENTS SEMI-PRO DEAL

TARINGA Rovers, the bastion of amateur Soccer in Queensland, could soon turn semi-professional.

That was the underlying message when the club announced its new sponsorship by Queensland Cement and Lime.

"The sponsorship by QCL gives us the opportunity to look to the future with a degree of confidence," club spokesman Frank Speare said.

"That's not to say we are suddenly going to race out and spend money on semi-professional players. But it could put us in a position to look at retaining some of our better youngsters."

Taringa has always been open to plundering by other clubs as the western suburbs club had never paid players, instead preferring to pure money into its facilities. And that has paid dividends. The club's clubhouse is one of the most impressive in Brisbane, and almost paid off, and the ground boasts the one of the best Soccer dressing room set-ups in the XXXX League.

Since former Lions reserves coach Iain Kesson was appointed head coach three years ago, the club has started to produce a host of brilliant young players. But being signed as white formers

The Western Suburbs Cement Company sponsored the team last year and was so impressed by its success, it agreed to backing the entire club.

"It's a Western Suburbs alliance that makes us very proud. I think everyone is going to hear a lot more about Taringa Rovers and QCL in the very near future," Speare said.

OUTSTANDING WOMEN'S SOCCER PROMOTION

A VERY appropriate sponsorship scheme has been initiated by the Australian Women's Soccer Association to raise funds for the Australian Youth team's first overseas venture.

The handsome brochure issued to mark the campaign is certain to win attention.

Women's Soccer, like so many other minority sports, experiences difficulties in raising the dollars necessary to engage in international competition.

So they have wisely turned to a "sponsor a player" scheme, which will give sponsorship exposure without costing an arm and a leg.

The Golden Supporter who is prepared to contribute \$300 will receive publication advertising, company identification and media exposure.

The \$150 Silver Supporter will be similarly supported.

The National Youth team is booked to compete in the Dallas Cup VIII international tournament in Dallas, Texas from April 12/19.

The squad for the trip has been well selected and should shine in the tournament no matter how high the standard of the main opponents is.

Team members will be doing their best to secure sponsors. General enquiries can be directed to Heather Reid, National Executive Director. Tel: 062 48 5834.

STATE BANK CHALLENGE CUP RESULTS

SYDNEY CROATIA 3 (R Slater 3)
SUTHERLAND 0 MARCONI 4 (F Farina 3, I Gray)
ST GEORGE 1 (P Petkovski) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 3250

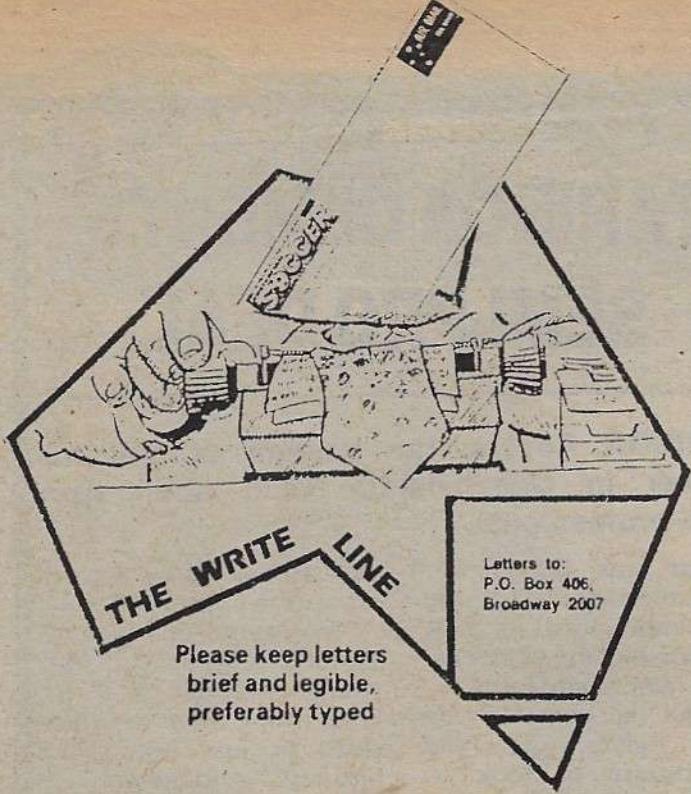
MELITA EAGLES 2 (R Farrugia, W Farnsworth)
APIA LEICHARDT 1 (P Tredinnick)
BLACKTOWN CITY 1 (R Naumov)
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 at St George Stadium. Crowd: 7150



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Newcastle coach PETER DEWHURST sees the sunny side.



Please keep letters
brief and legible,
preferably typed

FACTORS WHICH INHIBIT GOOD REFEREEING

"What is Wrong" (letters, 14th October 1986) singles out referees as the crux of the game's present problems. Nearly right — refereeing would be more exact. But refereeing is not a product of referees only. And certainly not of local referees. The factors in our problem which I think I can distinguish are:

1) the vanished sportsmanship of supporters, of many players, many journalists, most coaches and administrators at all levels, and most importantly at the top level. Soccer is still a game to primary school children and to some few amateurs.

Elsewhere it is between an ego trip and a business, in a world now madly competitive.

2) the star system world-wide. Star players can actually manhandle referees, apparently without intervention from club or Association officials.

Star clubs can, and do select their targets among referees and hit them in administrative circles. The media create the stars - they have a role in controlling their creations.

3) there is an attitude "if we clean up Soccer, our spectators will go to watch some 'more manly' sport". It is firmly in place overseas and here.

WE IN AUSTRALIA CAN ONLY SET STANDARDS FOR OURSELVES BY JEOPARDISING THE RESULTS OF OUR SOCCEROOS — ask Arok!

How many games in the recent World Cup Finals were refereed according to the Laws of the game? Actually, none.

In the series gamesmanship and dissent went largely unpunished. The standard was "Just so long as the players finally obey the whistle."

The usual overzealous tackling was allowed.

Did not the FIFA organizers want something better, a scene in which skills could thrive?

Or just to get the players off the park in one piece?

They have set the

scene till 1990, or more likely till 2000 A.D.

Referees will apply the Laws rigorously and fairly, when national and club administrators show that they want this done.

In Sydney, the cry has been 'man management lacking' in attacking referees.

Leo Wilson (the leading referees' instructor) asks for rigour and fairness.

The Press, the clubs seem to want the rules to be bent by smart bastards in referee uniform.

They, and SBS TV, present our refs with mission impossible, as long as elements 1 to 3 above exist.

A further contributing factor is the low-scoring game of today, the product of modern defence, its speed and depth and ruthlessness.

If that first goal is vital, then referees and linesmen must have as their watchword "no controversy".

This translates into "no penalty" or "flag up" despite an inner knowledge that it was a penalty, or wasn't offside.

But — how did it look from the stands??

A bigger goal is needed, so that the first goal is no longer vital.

Has the ASF any comments?

W.M. de Ste Croix,
Referee
Junior Coach,
Gordon 2072
(64, still active, but
with heavy heart)

FUNDAMENTALS, NOT SUMMER GIMMICKS

ONCE again (probably more as sign of desperation than anything else) the call has gone out for the National League to become a Summer competition.

While this will probably have some initial success it is worth noting that the failed North American Soccer League and a similar South African type Soccer League of some years ago were both summer season football competitions, for the same reasons that are now being advocated by the local Summer Soccer exponents.

From this free-back position 'Deadly Denton' was at it again, knocking in 18 goals for the year.

"As you get older, you tend to get wiser. I know when to go forward and when not to," Mike told us last night on the phone from Tasmania.

Australia is that some really DRASTIC and FUNDIMENTAL changes must be made.

The powers that be in Australian Soccer know this, but for many reasons not least of all self interest they cannot make these changes.

Therefore they propose solutions for problems which can only be at best be described as diversions or gimmicks, hoping against hope that they will miraculously work and buy time.

Meanwhile here in NSW and Queensland Soccer's already seriously depleted base is being further eroded in the crossfire between Rugby League and the VFL in their private war for supremacy in the two Northern States.

**Soccer Fan
Sydney
(Name & address supplied)**

Robins was responsible for training a relatively inexperienced team for the 2nd Oceania Cup which was held in New Zealand in March 1986.

Australia beat two New Zealand national teams in this Tournament and were runners-up to Chinese Taipei in the final.

Robins will train with over 23 national players

THE DENTON STORY EX-ST GEORGE ACE

FROM PAGE 12

1977 and 1978, Denton won Spartan's "Player of The Year" Award as well as coaching the seniors which through an amalgamation between Burnie Rovers and Burnie Spartans, became known as Burnie United.

Denton was the new Burnie foundation senior coach.

In 1980-81, Mike returned to England and played in the Kent League for Dartford Glentworth.

Returning to Tasmania the following year, he again joined Burnie as a player.

In 1983, Denton played for the senior team and took over the coaching of the Under 17s to win the Cup and be runners up in the League.

In 1984 and 1985, Denton still a player with Burnie, coached the Under 10s as well as the Under 17s with great success.

1986 Season

Last season, Mike Denton again played for Burnie United's first team, but now decided that at 42 years of age, the time had come to NOT retire, but to drop back a couple of lines and slot in as a sweeper.

From this free-back position 'Deadly Denton' was at it again, knocking in 18 goals for the year.

"As you get older, you tend to get wiser. I know when to go forward and when not to," Mike told us last night on the phone from Tasmania.

42 Not Out

When most players reach the age of 42, they have usually called it a day and reached out for their pipe, slippers and hot chocolate.

But last year, Denton won the "Player of The Year Award", won the Jack Brown Plumber Cup (pre-season), the Tony Mullett Cup (League

AWSA MEETINGS

YOUR article in ASWA of 10 February 1987 headed "Fred Robins remains the National Coach" contains some misleading and incorrect statements.

Firstly, Fred Robins was appointed as National Coach in 1985 for a three year term and therefore, there should not be any question about whether he remains as National Coach for 1987.

Robins was responsible for training a relatively inexperienced team for the 2nd Oceania Cup which was held in New Zealand in March 1986.

Australia beat two New Zealand national teams in this Tournament and were runners-up to Chinese Taipei in the final.

Robins will train with over 23 national players

at the Australian Institute of Sport from 15 to 22 March and it is planned that the camp will conclude with a game at Bruce Stadium on 21 March with Australia playing an Invitation XI.

Secondly, your article states that the forthcoming meeting (set down for 14 and 15 February) will consider a proposal to empower the Board to accept direct affiliations from any organisation.

The matter of affiliation is reviewed annually depending on the applications from organisations throughout Australia.

Two applications have been received from organisations wishing to represent the state of NSW and this matter will be put to a Special General Meeting for consideration.

Your readers may recall that the NSWWSF was considering not renewing its affiliation with the AWSA in 1987, and

however, they have applied for affiliation and this will be considered in light of other matters concerning NSWWSF.

Thirdly, in relation to national team officials, the AWSA does not wish to deny States the opportunity to appoint officials for national teams. A national youth team will tour to Dallas this year and States have voted on officials for this tour.

As the Constitution does not adequately cover the appointment of officials for teams other than the National team, amendments are being suggested to tidy up this newly created anomaly. The Youth team has not previously competed in competitions and therefore, there has not been a need to appoint officials.

Your article also implies that Graham Rees may have resigned due to your assertions that the Board was attempting to usurp power from the States.

Graham has been a loyal member of the AWSA and unfortunately, his work and increased study commitments prevent him from continuing as a Director. His position will be filled following the meeting next weekend.

**Heather Reid,
AWSA Executive
Director**

[Fred Robins' position is noted - the term of his appointment having escaped our recollection at the time - as is the position behind accepting direct affiliation and appointment of officials. As you are aware, a deal more has been happening relative to rival NSW affiliation requests than your letter indicates. No indication whatsoever was given nor intended in our article over the reason for Graham Rees' resignation from the Board.-Ed]

GUCCI CUP RESULTS

Bankstown City 3, Polonia 0; Canterbury-Marr 4, Blacktown Asan 1; Marconi 3, Melita 2; Sydney Olympic bye.

SEMI-FINALS
PEAKHURST PARK
WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Sydney Olympic v Marconi 6pm; Canterbury-Marr v Blacktown City 7.30pm.

FINAL
to be announced



MIKE DENTON (fourth from left at front) with the Burnie first team.

Off the Pitch Load

Denton has qualified as a coach, having completed Level 11 of his course and has just finished Part A of Level 111.

A father of three children, (Andrew 13, Iain 9 and Rebecca going on for 5.) Mike is employed in administration for the LACTOS Company, Australia's largest specialty cheese company over the last six years.

And on top of all that, Mike and is currently

undertaking a computer course at the State Institute of Technology.

A word of warning from Tasmania's Mike Denton, is:

"Our junior players down here are excellent. But like many other places in Australia, despite that they do not get exposure or the correct handling that is vital to their development."

"For example, Tasmania produced Kurt Reynolds, Australia's centre-back for the current Youth National

team who has been fortunate to have been snapped up by Les Schienflug for Australia as well as by his Blacktown City club."

Denton who himself writes a column in the local "Advocate", is an inspiration to many other players.

His five years at St George Budapest Soccer Club left an indelible mark on so many of the Saints' Soccer fans.

But just when will Denton stop playing?

► From p4

ball bobbed in with stunned looks the order of the day.

After half an hour Bruce James was able to finally make a save that would have raised his depleted spirits as his start to the game was decidedly shaky. Ken Slavesci drilled a 20 metre free-kick that the Marconi 'keeper got down to turn around the post.

Then came one of Marconi's superb counter-attacks. From a concerted St. George raid the Fairfielders gained possession and the swiftness of the reply was stunning in the least.

Henderson played the ball to Lowe, who whipped it to winger Farina, with two on one the pass was knocked into Nashevski, who cheekily held up play as Gray arrived behind him, then came an equally cheeky back-heal but Gray's finish brushed the far post as he

attempted to steer in a goal.

Eleven minutes into the second half Farina had his second as he beautifully headed in a David Lowe corner.

He tried the same thing 20 minutes later but was denied on the line by full-back David Green.

After 70 minutes the Saints grabbed a goal when Graeme Fletcher swung over a cross to the far post which was turned in by Peter Petkovski.

But Marconi still had another to round things up. A further incisive 'blitzkreig' straight from Bruce James punt-kick clearance. Lowe flicked on the ball first time to Farina who spotted the wandering Gibson on the edge of his area and chipped him with ease from 30 metres.

To add injury to the insult, Gibson hurt himself as he fell backwards in his vain leap for the ball and had to be replaced.

MARCONI: James, Carter,

Wheatley, Henderson, Gomez (Rizzotto 66), Mason, Gray, Lowe, Farina, Maxwell (Okon 62), Nashevski.

ST.GEORGE: Gibson (Warren 82), Green, Slavesci, Owens, O'Shea, Pottier, Porter (Fternitis 65), Moffitt, Ollerenshaw, Petkovski, Kulscar.

Crowd: 3250.

Referee: K.Small.

YOUNG SOCCEROO sweater George Kulscar has arrived at St George Stadium, along with team-mate, goalkeeper George Bouhoutsos from Sydney Olympic.

TWENTY players will train in Sydney and another 20 in Melbourne in April. From these the Australian squads will be selected, including the 18 to tour to South Korea for the President's Cup in early June.

WILL there be a Nanda Cup this season? It is more than a rumour that Nanda will not pick up sole sponsorship rights. The Cup will be contested, but a number of companies could be involved, including Nanda.



FARINA

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Wide World of Football

Now Chelsea chase Platini

Tottenham now have a serious rival in their bid to capture Michel Platini from Juventus at the end of this season.

I'm told that Spurs chairman Irving Scholar has already had preliminary talks with the French midfielder, but I can reveal that Platini's business advisor flew to London last week to open discussions with another club from the capital.

I believe Chelsea are the interested party - with chairman Ken Bates and manager John Hollins desperate to close the gap in London superiority, currently held by Arsenal and Spurs.

The West London club once came close to signing Johann Cruyff in his twilight years, and a big name recruit now would serve as a sweetener to the Stamford Bridge fans whose season of disappointment will reach a new low if David Speedie finds another club.

Platini, 31, was secretly considering retirement from the game earlier this season, but now it seems a move to London is on the cards because his wife wants to live in the city.

FIFA remembers our Chris . . .

IN FIFA's most recent Magazine they went as far as devoting the entire book on the men-in-black, the referees.

They also gave 3 pages to a couple of famous World Cup incidents and Chris Bambridge figures prominently.

On this occasion he is defended by cohort Gottfried Dienst, who twenty years ago awarded Geoff Hurst a goal for England against West Germany in the World Cup final.

Dienst was actually in the grandstand in Guadalajara when Bambridge waved play on after Spain's Carlos had hit the bar against Brazil and the ball bounced down near the line.

Says Dienst: "Bambridge acted absolutely correctly."

THE CHILEAN YOUTH FOOTBALL TEAM

Preparations as well under way and according to program:

a) Preliminary work: (October 1985-March 1986).

This part of the preparations was done by the Football Federation itself and consisted evaluating possible candidates for recruitment from all parts of the country. At the end of this preparatory work, a youth team was sent to the People's Republic of China to play friendly matches against similar teams in this country.

b) Training:

The following training program was worked out in March 1986:

1st Phase: (April 86-December 86).

This phase is divided into two parts:
Regional teams: The Technical Department of the Chilean Football Federation is responsible for the formation of regional teams from which, early on in 1987, the best and most experienced will be chosen for the Chilean National Team.

Provisional National Team:

Responsibility for this part of the program is shared by the COL Sports Committee and the Chilean Football Federation. Training is given to a group of players of proven quality and experience. They are trained by a group of 9 professionals of different specialties. This select team has played against First Division teams and against the mentioned regional teams. Plans for the near future include many more matches not only against national top teams but also against youth teams from other countries.

2nd Phase: (January 1987-October 1987).

During this period the Technical Staff nominated by COL will select the finest players and start the final training, consisting basically of technique and skills, intensive physical exercise and practice in a number of international matches. After evaluation of the progress made, it will be decided which players will represent Chile in the IV World Youth Football Championship, FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup, Chile 87.

On the basis of information presented by COL-Chile 87 at the FIFA/Coca-Cola meeting in Mexico in May, 1986, it was decided that FIFA would choose 4 sites for preliminary matches after a second inspection visit to the stadiums in November or December, 1986. At that meeting the Carlos Dittborn and El Teniente stadiums of Arica and Rancagua were eliminated.





In Brief

ITALY is well and truly back on the right track under the management of Azelio Vicini.

After their 1-0 win over Portugal in Lisbon last week they went further ahead at the top of their group (2) in the European Championship qualifiers.

The man who has been the instrumental part in their 100 per cent record (four wins out of four) is 31-year-old centre-forward ALESSANDRO ALTOBELLi.

Altobelli has cracked six goals out of the 11 Italy have scored, two against Switzerland (3-2), one v Malta (2-0), two more against Malta (5-0) and the all important winner against the Portuguese.

In fact this world class striker has scored 23 goals so far this season — almost unheard of for an Italian front-runner. He has grabbed 10 in the league, four in the Italian Cup, three in the UEFA Cup and the rest for Italy.

Says Altobelli: "I may be 31, but I have the enthusiasm of a kid, and I don't count the goals — I just score them."

And to think he retired after the Mexican World Cup... lucky for Italy he reconsidered.



FIFA has approved the final account of the 1986 World Cup finals, showing profits of \$66 million.

Host nation Mexico will receive 30 per cent, with the rest to be divided among the 24 national associations which con-



ITALIAN and Inter Milan star ALESSANDRO ALTOBELLi celebrates yet another goal.

MIDFIELDERS GALORE AT GOODISON!

THE arrival of \$1.7 million signing IAN SNODIN at Everton's Goodison Park makes the Sky Blue's midfield the sharpest in the First Division.

The England Under-21 star moves into a midfield squad that contains three England players, Trevor Steven, Peter Reid and Paul Bracewell, as well as Paul Power and Kevin Sheedy.

The internal Goodison fight for first team places could just give Everton the edge they need to stay ahead of Arsenal in the

run-in to the Championship.

Snodin turned down more money and maybe more recognition by joining Howard Kendall rather than deadly rivals Liverpool.

He did it for very professional reasons. Says Snodin: "Purely for football, I had to go to Goodison."

"Everton have got a lot of good young players and for the next four or five years I see them staying at the top. They are geared for success — which is what I want."

Snodin's exciting promise was recognised

almost two years ago when Leeds wrote a cheque for \$400,000 to buy him from Third Division Doncaster.

Snodin did not always fulfil his rich promise in a struggling Leeds team but he has always had the support of England Under-21 boss Dave Sexton.

Now, in a Championship-chasing team, he should have more opportunity to score the goals from midfield his speed and direct running instincts have often threatened but not always delivered.

WORLD YOUTH CUP ORGANIZATION

2.1. Work schedule

In October 1985, COL-Chile worked out an open-ended schedule for the different stages of organization:

a) Investigation and Planning: (October 85-March 86)

To investigate and plan the event in all its aspects so as to permit the preparation of a general tentative budget and its subsequent technical and financial assessment.

b) Project Preparation: (March 86-August 86)

This stage consisted of the elaboration of the event's overall structure, on the basis of a budget that included projects previously submitted to a technical and economic analysis. This operating budget was partly the result of negotiations with the Coca-Cola Company.

c) Scheduling and Marketing: (June 86-December 86)

Planning time and order of the entire event and definition of the marketing strategy.

d) Implementation: (October 86-September 87).

Execution of all preliminary activities as planned in the previous stages.

e) Test run: (July-September 87).

A series of trials to prove the operation and telecommunication systems.

f) Celebration of the event: (October 87).

The World Youth Football Championship for the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup, Chile 87 will take place from October 10 to 25, 1987.

g) Dismantling and Evaluation:

The dismantling of the organizational structure and evaluation of the event.



PRETTY BOYS are Soccer players! Just take a look at the modelling that Manchester United and England captain BRYAN ROBSON is doing.

Playing the round ball game professionally can become quite profitable for someone like this gifted midfielder.

In these pictures on this page Robson is featured modelling EASY gear. Among other endorsements he promotes gear such as Sondico and New Balance boots. Pretty lucrative business this game!

BRAZILIAN Lima will never forget the day he befriended an old lady supporter of his team, Gremio Portoalegrense.

She named him the chief beneficiary in her will, and the striker stands to inherit investments worth over \$42 million!

'MONEY MADNESS'

LEICESTER'S ALAN SMITH - given a \$4 million price tag as the transfer market goes crazy again - isn't letting all the attention he's suddenly receiving go to his head.

The 24-year-old striker has developed into one of the First Division's top attackers over the past five years so it's no surprise that he's been watched by scouts from many of the country's leading clubs. But Smith, who still lives at home with mum and dad, is keeping calm as the pressure builds up.

"I don't take too much notice of all the transfer talk. A lot of it is just speculation and, if I did let it affect me, my form could well suffer," he says.

When Leicester boss Bryan Hamilton told the top clubs that Smith would cost \$4 million, it was meant as a hands-off gesture. But the transfer talk hasn't stopped.

Smith insists he wants to help Leicester out of relegation trouble before leaving, but Arsenal boss George Graham is known to be an admirer.

"The \$4 million tag astonished me. Crazy money, quite amusing really," says Smith. "But it hasn't harmed my game. I'm doing my best and, although the club is struggling, I feel I've been doing well."

Smith's goals will still play a vital part in the club's bid for survival. He's reached double figures for the fourth year in a row and is hoping to beat last year's peak of 19.

HIGHLY renowned conductor Riccardo Muti, currently in charge of the orchestra at the La Scala Opera in Milan, has promised to compose a special piece of music if his favourite team Napoli win the Italian League this season.

"The feel of the piece will be like the team," he says. "Artistic, but also violent and out of control."



WEST GERMAN midfield star LOTTHAR MATTHAUS has signed a new three-year contract with Bayern Munich, ending speculation that he would be moving to Italy next season.



GERRY ARMSTRONG, Brighton's former Northern Ireland striker, could be on his way to Second Division rivals Millwall.

Millwall manager, JOHN DOCHERTY, wants 32-year-old Armstrong on loan.



LOTTHAR MATTHAUS takes a ride on a Portugal players back.

ENGLAND CHANCES GIVEN A BOOST

STEWART ROBSON'S move to his beloved East End has boosted the 22-year-old ex-Arsenal star's chance of winning his first full England cap.

His personal misery at Highbury, which surfaced when he told manager George Graham he wanted to leave Arsenal, would have blunted his progress and chances of persuading Bobby Robson to blood him in England's midfield.

Now free of injury worries, Robson can rebuild his burgeoning career as one of England's brightest young prospects.

Robson will add the gladiatorial spirit to West Ham's line-up that has been missing since the days of Billy Bonds.

Robson says: "I supported West Ham when I was a lad. Their sort of football always appealed to me."

He takes his place in a West Ham side after recovering from a pelvic operation that kept him out of the Arsenal team from September 5.

"There is no problem

with the injury, none at all," says Robson.

West Ham manager John Lyall, who masterminded the swoop, says "Stewart is a great buy and any club would be pleased to get a player of his ability."

"He is a very likeable lad as well, which is bonus."

THE Italian FA has appealed to UEFA for radical changes in the European Cup format.

Spokesman Teodosio Zotta says two proposals will be put forward by the Italians for immediate consideration.

First, they want the First and Second Rounds of the European Cup to be replaced by mini-Leagues of four teams, guaranteeing

three home matches for every club.

After that, Italy is calling for straight knock-out from the Quarter-Finals, and an end to the penalty shoot-out.

The second proposal is that the clubs should be seeded in the European Cup, thus preventing the Real Madrid v Juventus tie from happening again at such an early stage of the competition.

RANGERS

GO FOR HATELEY

Rangers boss GRAEME SOUNESS is ready to go for his biggest signing yet - MARK HATELEY or KERRY DIXON.

The Ibrox player-manager is determined to maintain the sky-high interest at the club and is prepared to spend £1 million for either of the England strikers.

First choice for Souness is Hateley, and I believe he's been in touch with the AC Milan striker on a number of occasions and hopes to make a move before Arsenal and Liverpool can agree a deal with the Italian club.

But Dixon's wish to get away from trouble-torn Chelsea presents Souness with another option and he's prepared to offer strikers ALLY McCOIST and COLIN WEST in a part-exchange deal.

£200,000 West hasn't really fitted in at Ibrox. And McCoist's involvement in an off the field incident means that, like TED McMILLAN, he could soon be on his way.

Also leaving Rangers are DOUGIE BELL, who has signed for Hibs, CRAIG PATERSON, to Motherwell, and NICKY WALKER and HUGH BURNS on loan to Falkirk and Leeds respectively.

Maradona scare

Fears that Diego Maradona had played his last game for Napoli have proved unfounded after x-rays revealed that the ankle injury sustained in the 3-0 victory over Ascoli was nothing more serious than a strain.

Now the Argentine skipper, who could well quit Naples at the end of the season, aims to help his team to the Championship before he leaves.

Also set to leave Napoli is international midfield star Salvatore Bagni.

He says: "It doesn't matter whether we win the Championship or not. I'm definitely leaving. My house has been ransacked three times in the last eight months. It's enough to make anyone fed up."



Newly-crowned European Footballer of the Year Igor Belanov had to settle for second place in the domestic charts as Alexander Savarov, Belanov's team-mate at Dynamo Kiev, was voted USSR's Player of the Year. Midfielder Savarov earned 357 voting points compared to Belanov's 313. Oleg Blokhin, also from Dynamo Kiev, was third.

Not a lot of people know that . . .

TALK of Arsenal's unbeaten run being brought to an end by Manchester United after 21 games is confusing because that figure includes Cup-ties. The fact is that run included 17 League games without defeat, which was still

good enough to equal the club's record set up in 1947-48 when Arsenal won the Championship and Manchester United finished runners-up.

'SILLY' SANCHEZ

The head-over-heels antics of Mexico striker Hugo Sanchez each time he scores a goal could soon become a thing of the past.

Sanchez, currently top scorer in the Spanish League, was severely reprimanded by a referee for celebrating in his usual style after scoring in Real Madrid's 2-2 draw with Sporting Gijon.

"Sanchez made a fool of himself and soccer in general," blasted the ref. "If he does it again in a match that I'm in charge of I'll send him off."

Little job

Former Wolves boss BRIAN LITTLE has been appointed youth coach at Third Division leaders Middlesbrough. He succeeds EDDIE GRAY, who vacated the position to take charge at Rochdale.



JOHN GIDMAN during happy days with Manchester United.

'FRIZZ' GETS 'GIDDY'

MANCHESTER CITY boss JIMMY FRIZZELL did himself a real favour when he snapped up former England full-back JOHN GIDMAN on a free transfer from neighbours United.

Says Frizzell: "I signed him in spite of wild stories that he was not a good trainer and could be a problem."

"But he has been just the reverse. He's one of our most dedicated players on the training ground and leads in most of the conditioning work."

"He has been a superb example to the youngsters, has given us a great deal of guidance on the field, and when there has been a problem in the dressing room he has always found a solution and kept things stable."

ALDRIDGE SETS HIS SIGHTS!



JOHN ALDRIDGE lines up in the Liverpool attack with a message to send a shiver down Clive Allen's spine.

Liverpool's \$1.5 million buy from Oxford is breathing down the Spurs striker's neck in the race to be top scorer in the First Division.

Aldridge, the Eire goal-ace, had scored 15 First Division goals when Kenny Dalglish swooped to capture the 28-year-old striker's goal-poaching talents.

The ink had hardly dried on the contract when Aldridge served an ominous warning to his rival Allen.

"I am chasing Clive Allen. I want to be the First Division's top scorer."

But Aldridge angrily denies that he ever said he would score 30 goals for Liverpool.

"It makes me out to be big-headed," he said. "All I have said is that I am convinced Ian Rush and myself will terrorise defences and get among

the goals." Aldridge's impressive tally of 80 League goals in just over three seasons at Oxford after cracking in 69 in 170 League appear-

ances for Newport offers the perfect credentials for a successful Anfield career after the prolific Rush leaves for Juventus.



IAN RUSH

DIXON SETS HIS SIGHTS ON 200 BIG ONES!

KERRY DIXON joined the distinguished band of strikers to have scored 100 goals for Chelsea and then declared: "Now I'm after the all-time record."

The blond centre-forward became only the seventh man in Chelsea's 82-year history to reach the century with a double-strike against Aston Villa last month.

And he says: "It's been a good three and a half seasons for me at Stamford Bridge and I hope the success continues."

"I've got two and a half years of my present contract to run, so who knows how many more I

might score? The 200 goal barrier wouldn't be impossible if I could finish this season with a flourish.

"Certainly I think it is something for me to aim for and I still have plenty of ambition left in me."

"I don't want to go out of the game without winning any medals, titles or Cups, and any goalscoring records I might gather along the way would be a marvellous bonus."

Dixon's ton took three

years and four months to complete after his \$350,000 move from Reading in 1983.

He fired a double strike on his debut in a 5-0 thrashing of Derby County, and his 28 League goals that 1983-84 season made him top scorer in the Second Division.

A further 24 First Division goals in the following season saw him the top goalscorer for the third season running (he

also was the Third Division's leading marksman in his final season at Reading) and he was in contention again last time round before a cruel injury 12 months ago.

He admits that setback sparked a terrible year for him personally. Chelsea's fortunes, significantly, also took a dive.

"At least I managed to complete the century in 1986," he says.

"I reckon to get that many for any club is a good achievement, and to join the great names who have done it with Chelsea makes it all the more special."



Ex-Spurs man GRAHAM ROBERTS, now in Glasgow.

THE NEW BLOKE WANTS MEDALS

STEVE HODGE aims to make the 1987 season one of personal fulfilment after his \$1.3 million transfer from Aston Villa to Tottenham Hotspur.

The 24-year-old midfielder has a double target in his sights.

He reveals: "When I was starting out as a footballer I set myself five ambitions in the game.

"I wanted to play for England; play in the World Cup Finals and play at Wembley. I achieved all three in 1986.

"But I also dreamed of winning League Championship and FA Cup winners' medals, and I'd dearly love to achieve at least one of those this year.

"Certainly it is possible with the set-up at White Hart Lane."

Hodge's optimistic mood fails to hide one of his biggest heartaches.

He has cost over \$2m in transfer fees since leaving Nottingham Forest in August 1985. It is a fact he privately regrets.

He admits: "Nottingham, my home town, is a lovely place where most of my friends are. And Forest was the team I paid to watch regularly as a youngster, from the old East Stand."

"I never really wanted to leave the club in all honesty. It was a big wrench. I moved on simply because I wanted to play for England."

"Brian Clough insisted on playing me wide

on the left and I felt it was hindering my progress in terms of international recognition.

"But I've nothing but admiration for my ex-boss. He is simply the best teacher in the game. He's put me where I am today."

"Brian Clough is the best there is. Just ask Chris Woods, Viv Anderson or Tony Woodcock."

After 123 League games and 30 goals, Hodge reluctantly moved on to Villa for \$800,000. Significantly, though, he kept his three-bedroomed home in Nottingham.

He won the first of his 11 England caps as a Villa player and notched up an ever-present record in World Cup outings in Mexico.

But his life at Villa was a misery. A further transfer was inevitable.

When Hodge made public his intention to leave the club in September he had to suffer the indignity of being booed by the Villa fans during his next match against Norwich at Villa Park.

Now Hodge has every reason to be cheerful. He marked his Spurs debut with a goal in the Boxing Day massacre of West Ham, and his new team is in contention for League and Cup glory.

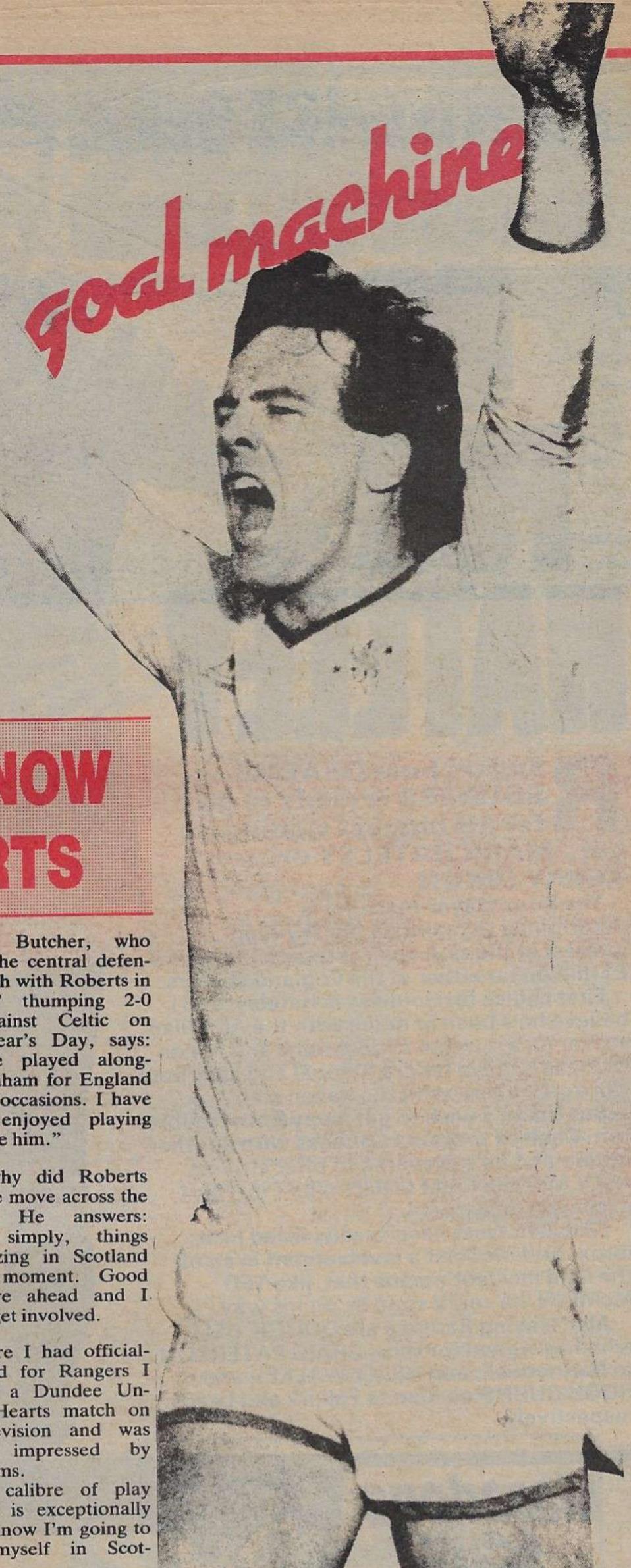
IT is a distinct possibility that through the efforts of Barcelona's Scottish striker STEVE ARCHIBALD, Wembley Stadium in London could play host to a Soccer spectacular to top all before it.

The former Spurs and Scotland man is trying to lure the biggest names in the world game together for one benefit match in March in aid for Africa's starving millions.

Pele and Maradona



goal machine



Terry Butcher, who shared the central defensive berth with Roberts in Rangers' thumping 2-0 win against Celtic on New Year's Day, says: "I have played alongside Graham for England on four occasions. I have always enjoyed playing alongside him."

• So why did Roberts make the move across the border? He answers: "Quite simply, things are buzzing in Scotland at the moment. Good times are ahead and I want to get involved."

"Before I had officially signed for Rangers I watched a Dundee United v Hearts match on the television and was greatly impressed by both teams."

"The calibre of play up here is exceptionally high. I know I'm going to enjoy myself in Scotland."

could well end up playing in the same team as Soccer Aid will be officially announced soon.

Says Archibald: "Pele and Maradona top my list. Pele said he'd love to play and four of the Argentina World Cup winning side, including Maradona, have indicated they will do all they can to be there, too."

"Details have yet to be finalised as it is a question of getting players released from their clubs, but we are talking about the biggest names in the game."

Archibald, who is still trying to move away from Barcelona after losing his place in the side, adds: "I'm hoping players such as Emilio Butragueno, Michel Platini and Bernd Schuster will be available."

The match is likely to be staged at either Wembley or White Hart Lane, although the former would prove the perfect venue for such an occasion.

Another coup that

WEMBLEY TO HOST SOCCER SPECTACULAR TO END ALL

Archibald is looking at is the introduction of Hugo and Daniel Maradona to play alongside their famous brother Diego.

Archibald adds: "Apparently the Maradona brothers have never played in the same team before. But they are all eager to get involved in

this spectacular and help make it a special occasion.

"We have all sorts of other fund-raising ideas we want to put into operation, but a Europe versus a Rest of the World showgame is the obvious centre-piece."



Pele